

Confession

of the

Southern Baptist Convention

held at the

City of New Orleans

in the year of our Lord

1845

and of our Independence

the 70th

of the

Republic

of the

United States

of America

and of the

Confession

of the

Southern Baptist Convention

Presently discussed between two

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To the most honorable and renowned Lord Sir George Carie, of the noble order of the Garter knight, Baron of Hunsdon, Gouvernour and Captaine of the Isle of Wight, Captaine of her Maiesties Gentlemen Pensioners, Lord Chamberlaine to her Maiestie, and of her Highnesse most honorable priue Counsell.



I hath pleased your Honor in fauourable sort to accept of a first croppe of my vnsauourie fruits: vnsauourie I may well call them that come from so barren a soile, too colde and drie, to nourish dainties, or to affoord a pleasing plant, that may be saouorie to your Lordshippes taste: but the field is yours, your Lordship hath purchased it, and tied it by band; for euer bound vnto you by so many noble fauours, it hath pleased your Honor to vouchsafe vnto me: the fruits therefore both of my labours and of my leisures are due vnto your Lordship, and doe appertaine vnto your Honor all by proper right, and euerie man is inclined to accept of his owne, and fauorably to regard them, be they neuer so simple. I

The Epistle Dedicatorie.

haue therefore presumed to present you with a
second croppe, not so seasonable as they shoulde
be, by reason of mine owne ill husbandry, that
can not obseue that Decorum looked after by
Schollers and maisters, of Art and method: yet I
hope my errors shal passe for the easier payment,
and be the better borne withall, my selfe being a
martiall Professor, and continually armed to the
prooffe, with a seruiceable and duetifull heart to
your Honor, and to that most noble and virtuous
Ladie, your Lordships bedfellow, of whose fa-
uors I haue tasted, and of whose worthinesse the
lesse I write, the lesse I wrong her, and therefore
as a subiect too high for my conceit to reach vn-
to, I will leaue her to the praise of more happie
penes than mine owne, and may cease to write,
but neuer to wish vnto you both, all honor and
happinesse, that is nor prejudiciall to true hap-
pinesse, and thus will rest

Your L. in all humble and
dutifull affection

Barnabe Rich.

To the friendly Reader

THere is nothing (friendly Reader) more necessary immediately after the knowledge of God, than to know how to manage our Martiall causes, when it is most evident, that as well Prince, country, religion, law, justice, subjects, and all together, are under the guard and protection of armes, & as the establishing of all happy estates, especially consisteth, first in religion and loue of God, and then in the knowledge and practise of Armes, even so as there is nothing amongst the religious, more perillous than Sects, so amongst Souldiers there is nothing more dangerous than to be diuided in opinions.

The greatest controuersie amongst vs heere in England, is the diuersity in opinions concerning the long bow, for that being our antient weapon, and wherby we haue many times preuailed to the attaining of sundry notable victories, we are therefore stil so naturally inclined towards it, that not onely the multitude and common sort, whose greatest arguments are force and heat, but many others that vnder pretence of great experience and skill, will inforce themselves to defend it, who ranging their passions to the tune of reason, will many times render such reasons as are more out of tune than the very passions themselves.

In this Martiall conference I haue layed downe all the reasons that I haue heard alledged in the behalfe of bowes, the which I haue done to this purpose, that no blinde assertions, coloured vnder the pretence of great knowledge, shoulde make vs to affie our selues in that which is not, nor yet to neglect that, which onely is to be attained vnto by great practise. I haue likewise handled some other matters in a pleasurable sort, not of purpose to offend any man: and the

To the Reader.

men that are most impatient are ever contented to take words that are merrily spoken, in sport, for seave lest other might thinke they would not winch without a galld backe: then how much rather is a dumbe booke to be borne withall, being generally written, but especially where the title pretendeth matter of pleasure, and without offence, if the Reader bring no offence with him.

There be some that will admit of no bookes, that are not drawne from the very marow and quintessence of wit, some other againe are better pleased with fantastickall and humorous deuises: but I utterly dislike that fantastickall humour, that writeth onely for his owne private praise, and not for some profuse to others. If thou shalt finde me poore in Arte and Science, thou must understand the penne is no part of my profession. And thus not to passe the boundes of an Epistle, I rest thine in all curtesie.

Barnabe Rich.





¶ A Martiall Conference, betweene
*Captaine Skill and Cap-
taine Pill.*

Skill:



Gentleman, wel ouertaken, I hope you are
riding towarde London, whither my selfe
am likewise traualing, and would be glad
of good company.

Pill I am travelling towards London
indeede sir, and am glad I haue met with so
good company as your selfe doe seeme to be, but I pray you
sir, let me craue your name.

Skill. Sir, you shal vnderstand that I am by profession
a souldier, and haue serued in the French and Low countrey
seruices diuers times, and in some other expeditions I haue
had charge, and therefore by such as know me, I am called
by the name of Captaine Skill.

Pill Truly sir, I doe loue you so much the better, for I
my selfe am likewise a professour of Armes, and am called by
the name of Captaine Pill: and therefore I must loue sould-
iers, nay more, I do reuerence them, nay more yet, I doe
hono: them: and I beleue, that one selfe same occasion hath
now broughte on our acquaintance, and I thinke we goe to
London both of one arrand.

Skill And I pray you sir, what might that be as you doe
thinke?

Pill May I thinke that this mustering in euery parte
of the realme, and this preparation for the making ready of
souldiers

A Marthall conference.

Souldier, is a name of much great service intended, and I thinke of you as I thinke of my selfe, that being a noble capitaine as I am, you would be glad of employment, as I would be, and so; that purpose you are going vnto London, to make sute for a company of men, and I promise you so am I

Skill If that be your intent sir, God send you good speed, but in truth it is no part of my businesse: I neuer yet made speciall sute for a charge, and I will not beginne now, and yet I haue euermore bene willing and ready to serue my Prince and countrie, and so I will continue as long as it shal please God to giue me life and abilitie of body. But especially in these dayes, when so worthy a Commaunder, so noble an Earle doth indenour himselfe in his owne person, and hath so honoured his countrie with his exploits, that all Europe doth sound out his praise: first, the magnanimitie of his minde in vndertaking, his resolution and protesse in performing, his noble and valorous courage in conquering, his mercy to the conquered, his incouragement to those that serue and follow him, his comfort to the one, his successe to the other, his affabilitie to both, his liberality to all, and his magnificence, as it hath not bin common to Generallles till now of late yeares; so in any enterprise that he shal vndertake, who would neglect to follow him, that may not onely be said to be Englands Mars, but may also be termed to be Europes Honour?

Pill Capitaine Skill, you haue inflamed me, nay you haue much more inflamed me with an honourable desire, and although hitherto I neuer made triall of my marthall skill before any foraine foe, yet now by the faith of a Souldier I protest, that whosoever be the commaunder, or whither soener the journey, if I can get charge, eyther of horse or of foot, I wil approue my selfe, and wil not tarry behinde.

Skill I know not Capitaine Pill how I might commend your courage, for me thinks I heare you say you neuer yet haue incountr'd with any foraine foe, I pray you sir, where haue you then had charge?

Pill True sir I neuer had charge, but once in Finsbury fields,

Selds, in the nightlie encounters betwene the renowned
Duke of Shordich, and the puissant Prince Arthur, where
I was a Witness in the field, and had the command of such
a gallant troupe, that if a man had the leading of them ei-
ther in France or Flaunders, he might be thought a verie
unkillfull Captaine that could not pick out a thousand
pounds a yeare amongst them.

Skil You should doe wel to procure 150. of them for this
expedition which you thinke is now intended: but I pray
you sir, haue you neuer had any other command then this
that you haue spoken of?

Pill Why do you aske that question?

Skil Because by your owne wordes you should seeme
to carrie the title and reputation of a Captaine, againe you
say, your iourney now towards London is to seeke for a
charge, now both your title and your intent doe argue a
farre greater abilitie in you, then you haue hitherto com-
mended in your selfe, for he is not worthy to be called Cap-
taine, nor fit to haue a charge, that hath had no better train-
ing then Finsburie fields both affords.

Pill But now Captaine Skill, me thinks you skip a lit-
tle beyond your skill, for if you haue beene of that conti-
nuance in seruice as your self doth report of, if you haue not
knowne, yet I am sure you haue heard of Captaines of lesse
practise then this that I haue spoken of. Why man there be
many of our Regiment, that are not onely reputed for
Captaines by name (as to be called Master Captain when
they walke byp and do wone in Poules, but otherwise by
meanes of friends they haue gotten charge in dede) when
some of them knowe not so much as their owne place in
the field: but I must tell you, you are too precise if you will
not admitte of this: first hee that hath had but the conduc-
ting of souldiours (be they more or lesse) to the water side,
though he neuer serued in the field; yet hee is a Captaine,
nay he will be a Captaine, hee that hath but seene an en-
signe three times spread in the field, though he neuer sawe
enigne of the enemies, he must be a Captaine: he that puts a
bire

himselfe into the arming doublet, with the points with the
silver tagges, tied up in the pitch of the shoulder, a scarf
about his arme, and a feather in his rappe, he that be a Cap-
taine: and he that will gainsay any of these, let him take
hede to himselfe: but to dishonour a Captaine deserues no
lesse then a stabb.

Skill I know (indeed) that some of them are as colericke
as the Brewers hoies, but you shall see I will stand out of their
way, and I would be loth to dishonour them more then
they dishonour themselves, but is not he to be registred
amongst your crew of Captaines that will giue money for
his charge, and will buy a companie of men, because hee
would be a Captaine?

Pill Marie sir I will stande to it he is worthe to be a
Captaine, for he that hath money in his purse, and will dis-
burse it to purchase a companie of Souldiours, it argues
great valour and honestie twin him that will do it.

Skill Valure as much as you list sir, but lie vppon that
honestie.

Pill Your reason why.
Skill Because, if he be an honest man that buyeth a com-
panie of Souldiours, he shall neuer make his money a
gaine of them.

Pill And he is a foole that will lay out his money to losse
in this age.

Skill Why then lette vs commend his wit, but not his
honestie.

Pill It is no matter sir what you commend or discom-
mend, I warrant you they are at a point for that: but there
are a number of Souldiours now adayes, who because
they haue had a little more training before an enemy, then
we that neuer saw an enemy, doo therefore thinke them-
selues to be so priuiledged, that they would haue none to be
imploied with charge but themselves, but they are decei-
ued, for perhaps we haue better meanes for the matter then
they, for we haue money to procure friends, and we haue
friends to procure vs charge, when sometime they shall

go without.

Skill And the most of them when they haue gotten charge, are as fullfull both to deceiue the Prince, and to cosin the Souldiours, as the proudest Captain in England, that hath serued longest.

Pill Hee Capitaine Skill I must needs condemne you now, your words doe stretch too farre, howe vnseemely is it so; Souldiours to truely against Souldiours: what speake you of deceiuing the Prince, when euery man doth seeke to liue by the Prince: he that hath an office and cannot gain by it, is a foole, and why should not Capitaines helpe themselves amongst the rest? And so; the cosining of the Souldiour, what and if a Capitaine do now and then gette a crowne out of his Souldiours moneths pay, alas it is nothing, it will scarce pay for an ounce of gold lace: and hee that is not gallantly gilded, he is but of the basest sort of Capitaines, and therefore they must haue helpes.

Skill I haue knowne Capitaines that haue woyn both golde and silver, without any cosonage or other deceit, either to Prince or Souldiour: and to say truly, gold and silver is fittest for Capitaines, for those that may be sayde (indeede) to be Capitaines of worth.

Pill There are not many of those, so; I know verie few Capitaines nowadayes that are worth much, and therefore he that will be a Capitaine of worth, he must learne to shift betimes, or it will not be.

Skill Capitaine Pill, your construction of a Capitaine of worth both so commend your Partiall Skill, that I thinke a man of your experience were more worthie to be made a great officer in the field, then to be so meanelly employed in the place of a private Capitaine, to haue the command but of a hundred and fiftie poore Souldiours.

Pill I tell you Capitaine Skill my words are mysticall, and not to be conceited by euery ordinarie Souldiour that is but of a darke & cloudy vnderstanding, and for this sufficiency that you finde to be in me, I doe as highly commend your iudgement, that can so readily discerne it, and al-

himselfe into the arming doublet, with the points with the
silver tagges, tied up in the pitch of the shoulder, a scarf
about his arme, and a feather in his rappe, he that be a Cap-
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as the Brewers horse, but you shall see I will stand out of their
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Though that I haue hitherto hidde my talent, yet now seeing so many men of lesse training then my selfe, are so ready to thrust themselves forward, and many times haue obtained what they thrust so fast for, I will therefore venture my stake amongst the rest, so; I see it is but fortune that ruleth all, vertue helps little, desert much lesse: Captaines are not so much appoynted for the knowledge they haue gotten by seruice, as for the friends they are able to make, my Lord he speaks for one, my lady she sues for another: my Lord commendes his man for his stomacke, my Ladie she prayles her man for his courage: men haue skill to perswade, women must not be denied when they sue, and he that hath a good stomacke and is of a lustie courage, is fitt to be a Captaine.

Skill Indeed valiance is a speciall vertue for a Souldier, if these men may be saide to haue it.

Pill Why who will denie it them, or make any doubt but that they haue it: he that hath liued all the dayes of his life at home amongst his friends, and neuer saue an enemy that might hurt him, and now wil make a speciall sute to be a Captaine, and to appose himselfe into so many perils, as he knowes not what they are, nor what they mean: who will denie this man to be valiant?

Skill No man that is wise but will confesse him to be as valiant a captaine as ener ran him selfe in to danger without iudgement, or as he that wil leape the hedge before he hath seene the ditch.

Pill Yet there be some that will saye it is a desperate kinde of boldnes, and they will call it rashnes, and foolish hardines, then they will make distinctions what is true valiance indeed, but these distinguishers are fitter for the schoole then for the field.

Sill And I thinke these Captaines had neede to go to schoole with them, to learne a little wit howe to demean themselves when they come to the field.

Pill Why should you thinke so, do you imagine that martiall knowledge fit for the field is to be learned at a schoole?

A Martiall conference.

Whole?

Skill And how should he come by that martiall knowledge, that neuer came in the field?

Pill And wherefore doe men seeke charge, but because they are willing to learne?

Skill Let them first learn, to obey, before they take vpon them to commaund.

Pill It is a base minde in a Gentleman to serue vntill he may commaund.

Skill It is a vaine presumptuous minde in any man to seeke to commaund, before he knowes how to commaund.

Pill Do you call it presumption for a Gentleman to deuoure himselfe to serue his Prince and country?

Skill I say it is the most honourable thing that any gentleman can indenure, but I call it presumption in him that will take vpon him to commaund before he haue experience how.

Pill And howe is experience sooner attained into, then for a man to be in place where he may commaund?

Skill But that experience is at too high a rate, for the vnskilfull Whistian, and the ignorant Captaine do buy their experience with the price of mens lines, and therefore in the olde time there was great regard had in the choosing of their Captaines, and no man might commaund or haue authoritie, that was vnder thirtie yeeres of age, but Alexander amongst the rest admitted none to the place of a Captaine that was vnder threescore.

Pill But men were not so rapable in those days as they are now, for now there be some, if they haue but sene Souldiers trayned on Mile-end-greene, or haue bozne office in a秋日summer sight, or haue bin at the fetching home a Pale-pole, they wil by and by put themselves into the Captaines trayne, and they will looke as big as Hanniball the great captain of Carthage, but he that should heare their table-talk when they be at their ordinaries, or amongst such company as knowes them not, but by their owne reports, would thinke that the nine woodchies were but soles in comparison

A Martiall conference.

of these men, they will shake off their skermishes, they will martiall their battells into squares, into triangles, into sheares, into saws, into halfe moones, into snailles, into gees, into elles, and into moze proportions then either Langius Vygetius. or Machiuell himselfe did euer knowe of, though he wrote the arte of warre.

Now for the winning of walled towne, the assailing of citties, dales, or the scaling of castles, what fortification so strong, to which they will not surprize, but with discharging of two or thre bolies of oathes: And where was there euer Generall, were he neuer so noble, that could performe any service, how honourable so euer, which they will not censure and seme to controule. In one thing they wil say, oportunitie was neglected, in another they will say, aduantage was not taken, heere they will say, discipline wanted, there againe, foresight was not had, this might haue bene prevented thus, and that might haue bene done with better safetie tother way. Now who can thinke but that these men were crept into the very guttes of martiall skill, that are so skilful to finde all manner of faultes, and so expert besides in all other militarie practise?

For the new discipline, they haue it as freshly at their fingers endes, as he that first founde it out, and they can commande with as good a grace. And do but imagine now that I were at a training somewhere about London, mark how I could behaue my selfe.

Souldiers ranke your selues into fine, drawe forward that, so, very well done: now rancke your selues into fire, double your rankes on the right hand, againe as you were, march on faire and easly, double your files on the left hand, open your rankes, close your files.

Skill No moze good Captaine Pill, for here is no body to maintaine the skirmish but you and I, and it is pittie you should appose your selfe to perill, where there is no better rescue at hand.

Pill But howe do you like of my commande Captaine Skulke you see now I could do somewhat: but speake truly

truly, how do you like of it?

Skill. There is no man that can dislike of it, it may passe in despite of all the pages in the court, but you neuer learned this at Finsbury, I am sure of that.

Pill. Wherefoeuer I learned it, no matter for that, you see I haue it, & cunning is no burthen, but do you not think my experience sufficient for the conduct of an hundred and fiftie souldiers?

Skill. Yes, and enough to confound them all of their paye: and nowe I perceiue indeed that yong Captaines are farre more capable then they were in Alexanders time, or else they would neuer make so great sute to gette charge, but I see it is skil that leades them vnto it, and I haue heard of some of those capable Captaines, in place where they haue bene imployed, that if they haue but once mustered 100. men, within one moneth after they will not haue 30. and yet I durst depose for them, that if they were brought to a dayes seruice, they would performe as great skil with that small number, as if they had fife hundred to commaund.

Pill. I think so, and it is no great wonder, for take heed of any man that is once growne so capable that he is apt to take any thing, but I will tell you of a Captaine of a speciall vertue, that was once imployed, I will not tell you the place whither, but it is no great matter though I name you the man, it was Captaine Flant, who was sent with a hundred souldiours to a place of seruice, where he had not stayed long, but he reduced his whole hundred of men into a iust proportion of fiftene, besides his officers, which was a Lieutenant, an Ensigne, a Sergeant, and a Drum. The 15 he reduced into thre Squadrons, which was foure to euerie Squadron, besides the thre Corporalles.

For his march, he would lightly ranke them into thre, and his fiftene men made iust fife rankes, neuer a man to spare.

For an instant of seruice, vpon any ground of aduantage, he would bid them to turne their faces on the right or left hand, and then they were imbattered into a boade square,

square, five in front, and three in flanke. If upon the plaine he were enforced to a square battaile, by thrusting in his Ensigne, his number was iust sixtene, which being drawn into Maniples, of foure made a perfect square, euerie of like strength.

If at any time he were disposed to martiall them into Batalions, he would neuer make aboue three Batalions of his sixtene men, neither would he admit any more than five men to a Batalion, because hee would do all things by proportion and art.

To shew his skill in the new discipline, hee would ranke his sixtene men into seuen, which made two rankes, and one man to spare, then would he bid them to double their rankes on the right hand, so then he had iust souretene in ranke, but where be the files: and this is called the willegoose ranke. Now if they had but turned their faces to the left hand, then the file was souretene, but where be the rankes: and now they were drawne into an excellent proportion, fitte to haue passed any straight that had not bene wonderfull narrow.

This is inough concerning his discipline, and now I will tell you how he passed a muster.

It fell out, that the Lord Deputie, or Generall, or some bodie it was that had the chiefe commaunde in that place, would himselfe be present at a generall muster, where Captaine Flant amongst the rest, bringing in his muster role, his officers being first called, his Souldiours were now to answere to their names.

There was first called Thomas Tatter, that had neuer a whole ragge to put vpon his backe, not almost so much as would hide his taile. Captaine Flant (quoth my Lord) if the rest of your companie be in as good plight as this, me thinks they shuld be able to maintein a great daies march, because they are not pestered with too much carriage at their backes.

I warrant you my Lord (answered the Captaine) you shall finde them all alike, and I hope your Lordship shall see

to seruiceable a companie, as would be glad to get their pay in any place in Chyristendome: well passe you by Thomas Tatter, who is next.

Slim Slatter, what Slim, bare legged and barefooted both: it is not yet a quarter of a yeaere agoe sithence I gaue you twelue pence to buy bzooges, but I see you haue spent your money at the alehouse: I will tell your Lordshippe, if this man would not sometimes take thye pottes too many, hee were as bzaue a footeman as euer marcht vppon two bare feete, and I vse him indeede for my vauntcurroure, to discover Ambuscados when I march in Bodalia: well passe by Slim Slatter, the next.

Nicholas Needie, come on Nicholas, a most dainty shot my Lorde, and an excellent marke man, I do value him to be worth foure men for his readinesse and skill: he hath but one fault, and that is, he will neuer carrie any powder in his flaske, I thinke he would sell his soule for good drinke: passe by Nicholas Needie to the next.

Gilbert Greedie, a verie lustie fellow, and a speciall Shoulbour, for a ward, or any place fortified: he loues not the field, but if he gettes into a towne, you shall neuer gette him out againe, till you plucke him out by the eares: Gilbert follow your fellow, and to the next.

Tom Trudge, an excellent shot, I had rather haue him on my side in the day of seruice, then fire of the best shotte againe in the field, that are not of mine owne companie, hee hath lost the seere of his peece, but wee will haue it amended against the next musters, passe on Tom Trudge, who is next.

Danie Drudge, a man of a great spright, I haue known when he hath sene two hundred enemies in view, and he hath wisht them all fast bound, both hand and foote, and himselfe amongst the thickest of them all alone, and had but a browne bill in his hand: well passe along Daue, and to the next.

Thomas Tattell mine owne countreyman, wee were boyme both in a parish, and for seuen yeres together, I was
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ture once in a month to finde him in a paire of stocks, or in a pillozie: but for an able Souldiour, I would not leaue him for tenne other in his place: go along Thomas, the next his Camirado.

Peter Prarle, an excellent skilfull Souldier, more fit to leade others then to be commanded by any, he is so careful in his conduct, that I dare vndertake he would neuer leade his company (with his owne good will) where they should take any harme: Peter follow your Camirado, I do value that man for his skill to be worth 20 ordinary Souldiers: the next.

Iohn Dory, an olde Souldier you may see by all his furniture, it will scarce hang together with very antiquitie: followe your fellowes Iohn Dory, to the next.

Sim Sory, stand forth man: what I thinke thou hast bin dauncing of Friskin that selde for & hath sold his hand for good ale, but I thinke thou hast sold al the clothes from thy backe for good ale: but there treades not a better souldier vpon this ground this day, and although he be not very sumptuous in his apparel, yet I dare vndertake he shall shoote as farre out of a musket, as he that is clad in sattin and veluet: passe along Sim, who is next.

Laurence Lifer, a man if it were to fight a combate for a kingdome, and not worth so little as twentie mens pay: but a D. take the Beadles of Bridewell, they haue made him lame of both his armes, but I warrant for his legges, if it come once to running retrain, the proudest of them all cannot mend him: passe along Laurence, to the next.

Simon Shifter, if I should speake of this man as I knowe he deserueth, I might craue patience to take halfe an houres breath. The seuerall seruices that he hath seene, aswel vpon plaines, hills, dales, streights, woodes, groues, thickets & all other groundes of aduantage, the dangers that he hath escaped from Constables, Headboroughes, and such other that are the common disturbers of that society, that loues not to medle with her Maiesties Officers, the stratagems he hath deuised to passe watches, wardes and other ambushments

A Martial conference.

bushuets that hau bin layde to intercept him in his passages, if I should speake particularly of his peregrinations what he hath sene & past, you would say that if a hundred men should attempt the like, if one escaped scotfree, all the rest would be hanged. But to speake briesly of his knowledge in the arte Militarie, I say he is able to martiall an army of 20000 souldiers, to rancke them into any fit proportion of bataile, either for the encounter in the fieelde, or for the assault of a breach, to quarter them, to encampe the, to bring them befoze any fortification, to plant them, to intrench them. nay, what can he not do that I my selfe can do: And what are an hundred ordinary souldiers to be compared to a man of his seruice?

Here the Gouvernour interrupting Captaine Flant, demanded of him how many there were yet in his roule behind to be called, the Captaine answered there were yet thre, then saide the Gouvernour that maketh iust 15. men by the poule, but as you haue rated them, some one man to be worth foure, some other five, some ten, some twentie, and now this last you say at a hundred, by this reckoning you haue mustered already aboue an hundred & fiftie, and you haue pay but for one hundred, me thinks you do hinder your selfe mightilie to keep fifty or threescore men moze then you haue pay for.

By good Lorde (saide the Captaine) I would be loth to coulen my Prince, by taking her pay for a hundred, but I would bring her five score to the hundred, if I want of my number by poule, as it may seme now I want a few, yet if these that I haue be duely considered of according to their worthines (that are all of them especial choice men) I hope her Highnesse may wish she had moze such Captaines, that so regardessuly both tender her seruice.

But saide the Gouvernour, your men do make no such shewe as you do commend in them, for there is not any one amongst them that hath a good garment about him, no; almost a paire of shoes to his feet. My Lorde (answered the Captaine) that is but their owne humilitie, they

A Martiall conference.

cannot abide any pnde; fie vpon it; and fie vpon these guarded garments, these fetters and scarffes, they cannot abide them.

But how now Captaine Skilme thinke you are halfe asleep, while I haue bene mustring of an hundred men, and yet haue past but twelue by the powle.

Skill You are deceiued Captaine Pill, I am not asleep; nay I am not so much as you are, for all this while that you haue seene me thus silent, I haue bin learning of Captaine Flant, first the martiall skill that he vsed in his order and discipline, then the gallant shewe of selected Souldiers that he brought to the musters: but especially his fidelitie to her Maiestie, that would take pay for an hundred and serue her with fiftene, a great argument of his dutifull care.

Pill but you must consider of his souldiers, what choicemen they were, what speciall skill they had, and therefore how to be esteemed.

Skill That is a matter indeed of great consideration, a very choyce company, some chosen from the stocks, some from the pillory, some from Bridewel, some I think from Newgate, and all fit for Bedlem.

Pill And why should you thinke them to be fit for Bedlem?

Skill Who were he that should see them so befottered, & betozne, but would rather thinke them to be mad men then souldiers: but how was Captaine Flant himselfe, I hope he was better futed for a Captaine?

Pill You may be sure Captaine Flant wanted no sutens that was fit for a Captaine, and I wil not giue a penny for a captaine nowadayes that is not al to be gilded.

Skill And two pence apiece were a great deale more then some of them be worth, when they haue gilded themselves as well as they can.

Pill You would make lowe prize captaines, and I perceiue we should haue captaines dogge cheape, if you might haue the rating of them.

Skill I promise you I would value them by their experience,

A Martiall conference.

rience, not by their apparell, by their armes, not by their wordes, for the Coynish diamond doth shine, yet but a counterfeite, and the bry of an Asse is no lesse hideous to the sight, than the roare of a Lion.

Pill These are folow comparisons, and great indignitie to the reputation of Captaines to be made Counterfeites, or to be reputed for Asses.

Skill Captaine Pil, you mistake your text, I would bee loth to preiudice a captains page by my speeches, much lesse therefore his maister: and is the perfect diamond the lesse to be esteemed of, because it is sometimes counterfeited: or may not a man say, an asse is but an asse, though he be wapt in a lions skinne, without any offence to the lion himselfe?

Pill But I speake of no counterfeits, I speake of captaines, such as haue had charge, and haue had the leading of souldiers in the field.

Skill And I speake of no captaines that can either leade or commaund with skill, I speake but of counterfeits, that can doe neither of both, and yet wil take vpon them to be captaines.

Pill I cannot tel what those differences be that you wold seeme to make betwene captaines and captaines, but I call him a captaine that hath had charge in the field, and I think him to be skilfull enough, that hath courage enough to encounter with his enimie.

Skill When Iacke may be a Gentleman, because he hath bestrid my lordes mule, but set a foale on horse backe, and he wil either catch a fall, or ride his horse out of breath: and for the courage that you speake of, who is so bold as blind bayard? But because you say you doe not vnderstand what the differences should be that I should make betwene captaines and captaines, I am contented to acquaint you with thus much what it is that I meane.

Where is no estate, be it empire, kingdome, or other common wealth whatsoever, that may be saide to be established or surely settled, either from foraine inuasion or intestine rebellion, which is not strengthened, staide, upholden, and prop-

A Marriall conference.

peo^{ple} by the force of armes. This was the cause that Salomon, who in the holy scriptures is called Rex pacificus, and was still busied with the building of the holy Temple, forgot not yet to furnish his garrisons with expert men of warre, horses and charriots, neither hath there bene any well gouerned commonwelth, which hath neglected this care, but they haue bene at all times, in all ages, and in all places especially p^{ro}vident in this behalfe.

It would be tedious for me to deliner, how cheereful they haue bene in encouraging, how liberal in rewarding, how industrious in training, how diligent in instructing and p^{re}paring of men to inable them with skill, and to make them expert in the knowledge and feates of war, when they were not ignorant, but would alwayes acknowledge, that both p^{ri}nce, country, life, libertie, gods, law, iustice, religion, and all together, depended in the skil of the souldier, and the knowledge of armes.

If the matter be of this importance, can you blame p^{ri}ncees, that haue euermore bene scrupulous in the appointing of their armies, and would neuer admit of any to be conductors, leaders, and commanders, but such as by continuance and p^{ra}ctise were found to be of approued skil, and of tried and knowne experience, and not to vester their squadrons with yonglings of little wit and lesse vnderstanding, who, because they haue seene souldiers alittle trained and made ready, or perhappes haue serued some moneth or sixe weekes where they might see alittle, wit vpon this presume to thrust themselves into charge, foolishly taking vpon them that they are not able to performe, when by the indiscretion of such a captaine a whole army may be ouerthrowne, which may concerne no lesse than the subuersion of a kingdome, and the losse of a p^{ri}nces crowne.

The matter therefore is not lightly to be regarded, though I do not amplifie and inforce it as I could, and her Spacitie hath payed dearely for the seruice of some of these halty mad captaines, in some places I could name, if I were disposed to inferre p^{re}cedents: but letting this passe, if for the attain-
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ment of a sely occupation no lesse than seauen yeeres, apprentiship is required, before a man may be thought sufficient in skill or admitted to trade, how happeneth it then that in the Arte Militarie, wherein there was neuer man so well practised (no though he had serued seuen times seuen yeares) which was not yet to sake, and euerie day to learne, and yet novices that haue not bene of seuen moneths practise, may sometimes not of seauen weekes training haue bene thrust into charge, that hath neither skil nor science to command, no nor to performe the least duty that appertaineth to a captaine of vnderstanding.

It is not enough for a man that shall haue charge, to march before his company with a feather in his cappe, and a gilt leading staffe in his hand, not although he haue daring enough in him to bring his men to a hot encounter, for fortune is in nothing more variable than in the action of war, and more victories haue bene lost for want of skill, than for want of strength or courage: but if it be true that he that hath courage enough may be thought to haue skil enough, if twere happy for our English nation, that are generally a people of so great courage and valure, as they are not againe to be seconded with the like, and yet euermore ouer reached by policie, sometimes with the barbarous Irish.

The Captaine therefore that relieth too much in his courage without skill, is like a blind man in a dangerous passage, and thinketh some to be led: for although that courage be an especiall ornament, wherewith a Captaine should be indued, yet courage without skill is not true valiance, but rather may be sayde to be rash and foolish hardinesse, for so it hath euer bene defined by the wise men of the world.

That courage (saith Cicero) that is forward to danger without iudgement, may rather beare the name of lewd hardinesse, then of manlinesse: The want of knowledge breedeth the want of skill (saith Xenophon: And Solomon sayth, a wise man is euer strong, a man of vnderstanding increaseth in strength. And Cato prescribeth three speciall.

Speciall vertues that ought to be in a Captaine, that is to say Experience Policie, and Valiance.

Here you may see, that although Valiance be a speciall ornament for a Captaine, yet it marcheth in the reereward, preferring the other twoo as moze worthie, for it is not enough for the valiant man to do what he can, but hee must likewise take heede that he attempt nothing but what hee ought, and therefore without experience he shal runne into many errors, and where Valiance serueth onely but for execution, Policie is he that prepareth the meane.

Pill But me thinks Captaine Skill; you are somewhat too nice in mincing of this word Valiance, which I do take to bee a naturall gift, but you would seeme to couple it I know not to what skill, and would admitte of no man to be valiant, that were not almost as wise as Solomon.

Skil If I haue bin too nice in the mincing of my words, they are the fitter for your queasie stomacke, which I perceiue to be neither of sounde digestion, nor of sauozie vnderstanding, for although I do not thinke that euerie valiant man must necessarily be almost as wise as Solomon, yet of this I can vndoubtedly assure you, that there was neuer sole that might be sayde to haue any valiance at al.

Pill But I speake not of extremities, for say that a braue and gallant minded Gentleman would couragiously take a charge vpon him, though he neuer in his life had serued before an enemy, whereby to attaine to any knowledge, may not this man yet be esteemed for valiant? or would you not putte some difference betwene him and a sole?

Skil Just as much difference as is betweene a greene Goose and a gosling, and for his valiance you do partly know my minde: but you say that I haue already minced the word ouer nicely, but I wil mince it a little better, because I would be loath you shoulde hurt your teeth in the chelwing.

Valiance is a vertue that fighteth for equitie and iustice, for nothing may be holden for honest, that is voyde of iustice

Rice, and as that knowledge, skill, or policie, that is fettered from iustice, is rather called subtiltie then wisdom, and in his best account is esteemed but for craft and deceit: so that courage that is forward to danger, more for vain glorie and greedie desire, then for a common profite and a generall good, is rather to be termed desperate boldnesse then baliance.

There is nothing therefore more inciting to true Christian baliance, then when a man shall remember he goeth to fight in a iust and honest cause: for when I know I shall aduenture my life in the maintenance of Gods true religion, in the service of my Prince, or defence of my country, whether I live or die, in this case I may live or die in the service and feare of God: my quarrel is good, here is no cowardice to my conscience, that may dismay or terrifie me, and therefore I will adde thus much more, there is no man may be said to be truly valiant, indeede, that is not truly religious, and hath the feare of God before his eyes: for which cause Machiuell the diuels politician, in his politike Description, thinketh that it is not conuenient for a Captaine, to be ouermuch inclined to religion, because (sayth he) if he be too zealous, it might infeeble his courage: but the Captaines that he thus inticeth, be such as he otherwise induceth to all manner of fraude, deceit, and iniurie, neither to make conscience of their quarrell, nor by what meanes they oppresse, so they may ouercome, for he knowes well inough, that if there were any feeling in them of true religion, that it would be a checke to their ambition and pride, and thereby an abatement of their hable and rashnesse, which by them is called courage and baliance.

But let Machiuell go, and the rest to beare him company, that do thinke that Christian baliance consisted otherwise then in the maintenance of iustice and right, or that a man may be said to be truly valiant, that hath no respect to the equitie of his cause, nor remoueth to his God.

Pill Why then you grant that the Captaine that feareth God may yet be valiant, though hee be vnskillfull.

A Martial conference

Skill If you will grant againe, that if a Captaine feareth God as he should, he would rather be vncaptained, then to be a conductor of men to the slaughter by his unskillnesse.

Pill Captaine Skill you do ouer reach me, but you cannot discaptaine vs this, for we will be captaines and haue charge too, say you what you list, or the best friends that wee haue shall faile vs.

Skill It shal neuer offend mee, I will still wish that your seruice may proue but halfe so beneficiall to the Prince, as I doubt not but you will make it profitable to your selues, and I warrant your friends may then haue greater ioy of your preferment, then hope of any hurt that you will do to an enemye.

Pill In god faith captaine Skill you are too precise, you are bp with your iustice, equitie, god conscience, and I cannot tell what: I tel you captaine Skill, it is more preacherlike then souldierlike: then you would cram more religion into one captaine then would suffice for thre or foure honest men, it is better for a man (in this age) to be wise in religion, then to be so full of zeale as you would haue him, and I tell you for my part I am iust of his religion, that hauing several daughters, would not sicke to marry one to a papist, and another to a protestant: and I tell you againe they are no soles that are of that religion.

Skill Captaine Pill, holde you still in that tract, for you are nowe in the right hie way to promotion, and you may perhaps get an office when it shal fall, and therefore cling fast to that religion, for I tell you it is full of policie.

Pill If it be so full of policy, it is the fitter for mee that am a Captaine, for I heard you say, that policie was one of the thre especiall vertues, that Cato would haue appertinent to a Captaine.

Skill But in these daies there are many things, that do passe vnder the title of policie, that in Catoes time they would haue called flat knauey.

Pill But I speake of the time as it is nowe, and you say there

A Martiall conference.

There be two vertues more, that Catoes Captaynes must be inspired with, and that is Experience and Valiance.

Now for experience, though I haue it not in such a forme of perfect discipline for the martialling of men, as I thinke Cato speaketh of in y^e place, yet I haue one principle, which being wel obserued, may stand a Captaine in as much stead for his profit and comoditie, as any experience Cato could prescribe.

Skill Say I craue of you what principle that might be?

Pill A matter of nothing among friends, but yet for him that is crept into a charge, & would be glad to make some gaine by his company, he must in no wise thinke that bribery is sinne, or whatsoeuer he thinkes, let him be sure that he neuer open his lips to speake against it.

Skill Perhaps you thinke that the Clerke of the Chequer would sometimes be angry with that Captain that should speake against bribery, and that would be the worse for him when he should passe his musters.

Pill Perhaps I did not so much as thinke of the Clerke of the Chequer, but take this for a maxime, he that knowes both how to giue, & how to take a bribe, may run through any affaires whatsoeuer.

Skill If you be so sure as you make semblance, we will let it done, Probacum est. And now for Policie and Experience I perceine you are very well furnished, but what say you now for Valiance?

Pill He that will say I am not valiant, swones I will giue him the stabbe.

Skill Why is that such an argument of ballance, to stab a man sodainly before he be prepared to make defence?

Pill Pea marrie is it sir, & you may easily know a Captaine, if he be of any gallant courage enen by that same word: stabbe, for that must be still at his tongues end, then he must haue charge of oathes, (for that is a wonderfull grace to a valiant man) and to thrust them from him as if he would make his audience to tremble, and heauen it selfe to shake but with the very breath of his displeasure.

A Martial conference.

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A Marshall conference.

These beinfallible arguments of a valiant Minde is dead, but you would the valiance to iustice and conscience, and I cannot tell what: but what affinity hath valiance with iustice & conscience: the one is fit for the kings bench, the other for the Chancerie, and what haue souldiers to do with matters of iustice, when you shall neuer see a Justice of peace, that with his good will dooeth loue to come amongst them in place where they are?

Now for conscience. I thinke there is no man so vngodly that hath not a speciall care of it, and I beleue for the greatest reason, as god remoueth as the wolfe that went to the lona to be shepheard, who hauing made a sorrowfull confession of his sinnes, was inspired by his ghostly father for penance, to fast twety foure houres, during which space, he might eate no more meate then in his conscience was worth aboute thre halfe pence, the wolfe going homeward met in the way with an ewe and her lamb, and being very hungry, yet hauing respect to his conscience (as the priest had inspired him) bawled the ewe to be worth a penny, and the lambe to be worth a halfe penny, and thus did eat them up both with a good conscience.

Skill Well Captaine Pill I would that wofull conscience were not in their bosomes, that can do more hurte in England, then a hundred thousand souldiers are able to do in Spaine.

Pill A hundred thousand souldiers were able for to ouerrune all Spaine.

Skill But a hundred of those wolues were able for to spoyle all England.

Pill And he that will make himself a shep, it is no matter though the wolues do eate him.

Skill But these wolues are able to make Jack a napper a shepe, a wise man a fool, and a fool a wise man.

Pill Those are metamorphosing Wolues, but can they not make knaues honest men?

Skill That they wil neuer do, but they wil soner make honest men knaues.

Pill

A Martiall conference.

Pill Let those woollues go to the gallowes for me, and let not vs that are souldiers seeme to contend y one againt the other, but let vs learne of them.

Skil What would you haue vs learne of them, to goe to the gallowes with them do you meane?

Pill Let them goe to the gallowes by themselves that haue deserued it; and let vs learne of them to be wise, let vs learne of them to thine and helpe our selues, and lets learne of them to runne smoothly through the world, for those fellows I warrant you can bite when they do not barke.

Skil An ill condition that same, for I remember a folish tale of a noble man sometimes here in England, who bearing mallice to a poore gentleman that dwelt not farre from him, did by many meanes so couertly and silye wryng and oppresse him, that the poore Gentleman, finding howe the game went, thought it best to seeke vnto him, and with submittiue speeches besought his lordship, not to stand greuous vnto him, protesting that he had neuer offended him to his knowledge, but would be glad to tender vnto him any seruice that might be fauourably accepted of.

Why (quoth my lord) what should make you to vse these speeches vnto me? By god lord (answered the other) I do finde my selfe to be crossed and hindered by many meanes, and I do vndoubtedly know that it is your lordships displeasure bozne vnto me, that doth thus ouer-burthen me.

Why then (saide the noble man) if you do finde your selfe so ouerbozne by me, you see then I can bite, though I barke not.

I do see it, and see it (my good Lord, answered the other) but I protest, if I had a dogge that were of that qualitic, I would hang him as soone as euer I came home.

And I promise you capitaine Pill, I am of this Gentlemans minde, I do not like of these tearing curres, that will first sawne in a mans face, and after bite him by the shinnes, I woulde such curres were hanged (say I) and these base demeanours of all others, are vnsittig for souldiers.

Pill I pray you capitaine Skil, what is it that you do think

A Martiall conference.

to be best bestitting for a souldier?

Skil. I haue already tolde you, there is nothing more honorable in a souldier than true christian valiance, which expelling all particular affectations (with inuincible courage) fighteth but only for equity and right, for what can be more blessed then this iustice and right, whereby we restraime all iniurie and wrong, giuing to euery one what to him appertaineth?

Pil But you stand vpon the etymologie of wordes, and you would make Valiance to be but a deriuatiue, drawing it from Iustice, Conscience, Religion, and I wot not what, but if your distinctions be of worth, I know but a few capitaines in England, that may be saide to be valiant, and that were an ill turne for her Maiestie when she should haue occasion to imploy them.

Skill. You say I would deriue Valiance from Iustice, Conscience, Religion, and you knowe not what, but you would deriue it from stabbing, swathing, swearing, blaspheming, and it makes no matter what: but for valiant Capitaines, no doubt but her Maiestie is better provided than your understanding doth serue to conceiue of, if not, she might pay dearly for it in the time of seruice, for what successe might be hoped for by these warres, that are supplied by men altogether irreligious, prophane, godlesse, and sometimes vnskilful withal: far be it from her Maiesties thought, to put her trust in those men that haue neither trust nor feare of God, or to commit her quarrel to their fortunes, whome God hath not promised to blesse, but hath confidently pronounced against them his malediction and curse.

Pil Without doubt (captaine Skill) you do too much ouerrunne your selfe, your wordes do rubbe a great many Gentlemen ouerthwart the shins more than you are aware of: what and if a Gentleman sometimes, of a braue and lustie courage should sweare half an houre together by the clocke a wise conclusion I promise you, that for swearing of two or three dozen of oathes, a man should therefore be condemned to be irreligious, prophane and godlesse, a prettie iell, fitter
for

A Martiall conferenece.

for a sole to spozte at, than for a wise man to beleue, and for these fellows that prate so much of religion, that haue nothing for an othe but, yes verily, and no truely, and I pray you sweare not, trust such a one he that listeth, but I can tel you what you shall finde of him : but away with the hypocrisie, and giue me him that cannot dissemble, who speaking what he thinketh, wil sweare what he speaketh : here is no double dealing, this man hath neither falshode forged in his tongue, nor passion smothered in his heart, but his words, his oathes, his countenance, his demeanour, and all his whole gouernement, shal bewray and lay open, howe he is affected, to what he is inclined, and whereunto he is disposed.

But for a man to expresse his anger in a milde and softly manner, it is more Peacocks-like than Souldier-like, howe disgraceful were it for a captaine vpon any discontentment, when he should thunder forth his furie, that with such honour as the heauens should tremble at the very echo of his oathes, but neglecting this captaine-like demeanour, as though he were halfe asraide, will pinch me forth an oath, swearing like one of the Queens like women, now by gods dainty deare, I will not digest so great indignitie, and by rocke and pie, I will be reuenged of the iniurie.

How ill becoming were this for a Souldier: but most odious and lothsome for a captaine: but these threedbare oths are most fit for threedbare fellows, and let souldiers shew themselves in all their demeanours, lik men, and not like meacocks.

Skil Without doubt captaine Pill, you haue spoken as wel in the commendation of swearing, as if you had bene a graduate in that profession : but yet for the courage that you would thereby attribute to those that doe vse it, it is like the commendation that a noble mans sole did sometimes giue to a merchant of London in the praise of his wifes honesty, which (as I remember) fell out in this manner:

A noble man that was inuited by a merchant of London to a diuiner, brought with him a sole, who being but a naturall,

A Maruall conference.

to be best bestitting fo; a souldier?

Skil. I haue already tolde you, there is nothing moze honorable in a souldier than true chistian baliance, which expelling all particular affectations (with inuincible courage) fighteth but only fo; equity and right, fo; what can be moze blessed then this iustice and right, whereby we restraîne all iniurie and wrong, giuing to euery one what to him appertaineth?

Pil. But you stand upon the etymologie of wordes, and you would make Baliance to be but a deriuatiue, drawing it from Iustice, Conscience, Religion, and I wot not what, but if your distinctions be of worth, I know but a few captains in England, that may be laide to be valiant, and that were an ill turne fo; her Maiesstie when she should haue occasion to imploy them.

Skil. You say I would deriue Baliance from Iustice, Conscience, Religion, and you knowe not what, but you would deriue it from stabbing, swathing, swearing, blaspheming, and it makes no matter what: but fo; valiant Captaines, no doubt but her Maiesstie is better provided than your understanding both serue to conceiue of, if not, she might pay dearly fo; it in the time of seruice, fo; what successe might be hoped fo; by these warres, that are supplied by men altogether irreligious, prophane, godlesse, and sometimes vnskilful withal: far be it from her Maiessties thought, to put her trust in those men that haue neither trust no; fear of God, o; to commit her quarrel to their fortunes, whome God hath not promised to blesse, but hath confidently pronounced against them his malediction and curse.

Pil. Without doubt (captaine Skil) you do too much ouer runne your selfe, your wordes do rubbe a great many Gentlemen ouerthwart the shins moze than you are aware of: what and if a Gentleman sometimes, of a braue and lustie courage should sweare half an houre together by the clocke a wise conclusion I promise you, that fo; swearing of two o; three dozen of oathes, a man should therefore be condemned to be irreligious, prophane and godlesse, a prettie test, after

fo;

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for a sole to spozte at, than for a wise man to beléue, and for these fellows that prate so much of religion, that haue nothing for an othe but, yes verily, and no truely, and I pray you sweare not, trust such a one he that listeth, but I can tel you what you shall finde of him : but alway with the hypocrite, and giue me him that cannot dissemble, who speaking what he thinketh, wil sweare what he speaketh : here is no double dealing, this man hath neither falsshode forged in his tongue, nor passion smothered in his heart, but his wordes, his oathes, his countenance, his demeanour, and all his whole gouernement, shal betwray and lay open, howe he is affected, to what he is inclined, and whereunto he is disposed.

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Skil Without doubt captaine Pill, you haue spoken as wel in the commendation of swearing, as if you had bene a graduate in that profession: but yet for the courage that you would thereby attribute to those that doe vse it, it is like the commendation that a noble mans sole did sometimes giue to a merchant of London in the praise of his wiuers honesty, which (as I remember) fell out in this manner:

A noble man that was inuited by a merchant of London to a diuiner, brought with him a sole, who being but a naturall,

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raill, was yet so full of sport (which pleased so well his Lord and maister) that he would neuer haue this sole from his heeles: and comming to the merchants house, he founde a great Ape that was tied in a chaine without in the court, with whome the sole incountering, the Ape amongst our newfangled fellows, was not to learne, but had gotte the Pop, the Poole, the Pump, the Pod, the Shrug, the Wale, les mains, the Congæ, and all the rest of those graces, that are vsed by our Fantastikes in these dayes.

And the sole againe, hee could dowke with the Friar, loke askaunce with the Physitian that were casting of a womans water, grinne with the pong heire that had lately buried a miserable father, gape with him that waited for a benefice, frowne with him that was chaunced fire and seauen and all to ten, yet lost both by and maine: to be short, he could change his looks, and make as many madde faces as he that takes Tabacco,

This glæ betwene the sole and the Ape made the company mery, but specially my lord who laught heartily to see the græting and entertainment that was betwene them: at the last, the sole turning to the godman of the house, asked of him, who that same was that he had so tied by, whom the marchant answered, that it was one of his boyes: now by my troth (said the sole) it is a very pretty boy, and I warrant him, if he liue, he wil proue a very good fellow.

Thus leauing the Ape, they were no sooner entred into the Merchants house, but the sole espied a great Spunkie. What saide the sole to the merchant, is this another of thy boyes? Pea mary is it Robin (said the marchant) this is an other of my boies, and as honest a man as the other, though he be somewhat yonger. Well (saide the sole) I warrant thee thou hast an honest woman to thy wife: Why to Robin (said the marchant) how knowest thou that? It must needs be (saide the sole) thy boyes be all of them so like thy selfe.

Poole I can not see but that this commendation thus giuen, doth as fitly concerne the womans honestie, as the praies
ses

les you haue so much indseuoured, may concerne any mans
corage or valiance, for the babes that you so much set forth,
they are but like the marchants boyes, this swearing, this
staring, and this blaspheming, which you woulde haue so
captaine like, they are all but Apes and Punksies.

Pil I cannot tel (captaine Skil) what construction I shuld
make of your histozie: but I hope you doe not meane to giue
me the sole by circumstance.

Skil I hope (captaine Pil) I shal not neede to do that, for
if you were thozowly acquainted with me, you woulde saie
there were no circumstance in me.

You say you pposesse Armes, and I am contented to be-
leue you, you take vpon you to be a captaine, yet you neuer
had charge but in Finsbury fields, you thinke that any man
that is valiant is fit to haue conduct, & you cannot tell what
true valiance meaneth. Once againe therfore I am con-
tentd to tell you, euery vertue hath his counterfeit follow-
er, for as deceit, sometimes crēping in is called Pollicie, so
Rashnes shrowdeth it selfe vnder the title of Fortitude: and
as it is true, that all valiant men are hardy, so it is likewise
as true, that all hardy menne are not valiant: and there-
fore bziesly to concludē, he is not truly saide to be valiant,
that is not first strengthened by God, and fortified againe
by his owne skil and knowledge.

Now concerning Captaines, it is not the place of a Cap-
taine that dignifieth the vnworthy person, who is not able
to erecute it, but it is the worthinesse of him that is appoin-
ted to the place, that dignifieth and renowneth the rowme.

The title of Captaine hath bene an honourable reputa-
tion, it is now growne to be a matter of scozne to be called
Captaine, when so many base and vnworthie persons will
needes march vnder that title, that knoweth not the least
duty that appertaineth to a Captaine.

The antiquity would neuer admit of any Captaine that
was either insufficient in skill, or openly detected for vice:
swearing breedeth hatefulnessse to al honest eares, couetous-
nesse extorting both of Prince and Souldier, pride bringeth
with

with it disdain: but how odious a thing it is to see a Captaine himselfe to be glittering in golde, and to see his poore souldiers to followe with no hose to their legges, nor shooes to their fete.

Cato being Censurer to make choyse of a General in the Panonian wars, openly disgraced and dismissed Publius, because hee had seen him walke the streetes of Rome per-fumed.

And as they were thus precise in the choyse of their captaines, so they were as heedfull, not suffering them to enter into unlawfull actions, that were boyde of iustice, honestie, or pietie: they punished nothing with more seueritie then those enterprises that were either attempted against commaundement, or vndertaken against reason: but as they punished those victories that were attained by lewd and foolish hardinesse, so misfortune diminished not his reputation, that attempted with discretion, neither attributing cowardlinesse to ill successe, nor baliance to good fortune.

The campe in those dayes was a schoole of honour, iustice, obedience, dutie, and loyaltie, but now a denne of deceit, trecherie, theuerie, robbrie, and all manner of impietie.

But if this regard in the choosing of captaines were v-
sed by the antiquitie so many yeares agoe, when armies
vled to appoynt the field, & when their whole forces were
brought to an encounter, where the weakenesse of a cap-
taine might be the better bozne withall, where there were
so many superioꝝ officers to direct him, howe much more
rather should we be more circumspect in these dayes, in the
appoynting of our captaines, when his skill and knowledge
doth not onely concerne the safetie or losse of many mens
liues, (which euerie good captaine should preferre before
the killing of his enemies) but especially service standing
now as it doth, most comely in skirmishes, where the cap-
taine is not holpen, but with the aduantage of his owne
experience: A wonder therefore how so many insufficient
men

men dare oppose themselves to undertake a matter of so great importance, where their want of knowledge may sometimes be the occasion of too much rashness, and sometime againe leade them into timoritie and want of courage, which may concerne no lesse then the losse of all together.

Pill You say there is no circumstance in you, and then your plaine meaning must follow thus, you would not admit of any man to haue conduct, but he that hath experience, and I am contented to allow you that, but here is the matter, you thinke no man can attaine to this experience, that hath not serued in Flanders or in France: you say I haue serued but in Finsburie fields, and you seeme to make but a trifle of that: but capitaine Skill, to deale without circumstance, as you say you haue done with me, and to tell you in as plaine termes as you haue told me, I thinke you do not know from whence experience growes, nor where it is to be sought for, you thinke no where but in Flanders or in France, but sir, you are deceiued, neither is it long training and much exercise that makes euery man fitte to bee a capitaine, although there is no man so vnapt, but with vse is made more perfect: but that experience that is fitte for a capitaine, and that is woorthie to carrie the credite of Martiall skill (indeede) is to be attained vnto without crossing the seas, nay, without any manner of training at all, and that by two especiall meanes.

Skill I pray you lets heare the first.

Pill The first is, when almost euery ordinarie about London may be sayde to be an Academie of martiall skill, where many times those capitaines that are of our Regiment shall spende you the whole mealetide, be it dinner or supper, with nothing but martiall discourses, dilating of offices, of orders, of lawes, of disciplines, of stratagems, of watching, of warding, of charging, of retreating, of offeiding, of defending, of winning, of losing, of approaching, of surprising, and you shall neuer heare them but they will still conclude with victorie, and therein consisteth their skill,

that they will euermore be conquerours, they will neuer lose by any misfortune, and yet but in one dinners discourse they will settle the king of France into a quiet government, they will banish the Spaniards from out the low countries, they will reforme Ireland, they will thrust the king of Spaine cleane out of Portugal, they will take from him his Indies, and they will not forget to eate their meate, and to drinke thre or foure healthes.

What seruice hath there beene, or may be so performed, which shall not be there lectured and read of a commentarie draloue from the circumstances, euery parcell paraphrased and altogether metamorphosed.

Skill Captaine Pill, as long as I haue lived, and as many places as I haue trauiled, I could neuer tell whither to go where I might heare a lecture of the art Military to be read before, but now I perceiue it is at your ordinaries where you vse to dine and suppe.

Pill Now you know where experience is to bee sought for, but from whom is it to be learned, what from your low countrey Souldiours onely do you thinke no sir, there is no such matter, yet perhaps some of these readers haue been in France or in Flanders a fortnight or thre weekes, but what is this in comparison of their skill, or how should they attaine to this grounded experience, that neuer saw an enemy surprisid in the field, and yet they will performe greater conquests but sitting at a table, then euer did Alexander when he conquered the world: you may easily thinke now this is not a monethes training in the felde, that could thus inable these men, but that there is in them such further science and art, as doth farre surmount their felde experience.

Skill I thinke it be one of the seven liberal sciences that doth thus inable them, and I beleue this exceeding skill consisteth especially in the Art of Astrologie.

Pill Your coniecture is pretie, and there is some ground to leade you vnto it, because by Astrologie they may calculate both of fortunate and unfortunate houres, and a captain

taine of that skill may helpe himfelfe in all his enterprizes, but for these men, they are not able onely to controule what is already past, but they are of like abilitie to censure any thing that is yet to come, for let there be any enterprize undertaken, or seruice intended, and they will say afozehand what will be the successe, as soone as euer they doe heare of it.

Skill It is wonderfull knowledge that you speak of, and I thinke it euerie way comparable with the phisition, that if he did but looke of a Cowes water, could tell how manie pintes of milke she would gine in a yeare: and now I perceiue that the first of your two speciall meanes where martiall skill is to be sought for, is at a London ordinarie: now me thinks your second should be in a Barbers shoppe, for there be many learned discourfes handled, or else I haue heard lies.

Pill The second meane whereby to attaine to the full perfection of Militarie skill, is by reading of booke, Lucullus by that onely studie, became one of the noblest Captaines of all the Romanes: is it any maruaile, when there we may finde written a perfect forme, as well of orders, disciplines, stratagems, and whatsoeuer hath bene obserued, practised, and experimented by the most skillfull Captaines of all ages, and what knowledge our predecessours hath attained vnto by fortie yeares studie, we may partly comprehend in one moneths reading.

A man if he haue seene the accidents what hath happened in the warres thirtie or fortie yeares, it may be sayd he hath seene much, but in booke, what hath bene perfozmed in a thousand, may be ouerlooked in a verie few houres.

Skill I will confesse where experience is holpen by learning, there experience is farre moze excellent, witte moze pregnant and policie moze readie, for without art who can conceive the ordering and disposing of men into seuerall formes of battaile, and sodainely to alter them againe into new propoztions, vpon new occasions, or what memorie can containe so many formes, and so many propoztions for

all manner of numbers without Arithmetike: againe, for fortifications, who can comprehend any small knowledge in it, or any ingenious instruments, that may be either apt for offence or defence, that hath not some skill in Geometrye?

And as art and science is thus beneficiall to partiall knowledge, so the reading of booke may be of like importance, to giue vs light how warres haue bene arered, prosecuted, and performed, but he that hath no better experience then his reading, is as fitte to be a Captaine, and to haue the conducting of men to the fiede, as he that hath but read the art of Nauigation may be fit to conduct a ship to the sea: for although Galene furnissheth the phisition with approued medicines for euerie disease, yet he were a desperate patient that in an extremitie of sickness would venture to take Physicke of him that hath neuer had better practise then his reading.

Pill Thus I perceiue you will not admitte that a man may attaine to any perfection in partiall skill, by reading or by the studie of his booke, but he must needs goe seeke it in the French or Holow countrey seruices: and you do wel to arrogate to your selues this science and knowledge, but there are some other that are of a contrarie opinion, who do thinke, that amongst al the rest that doe profess armes, they must needs be most insufficient, that haue had their onely training but in those tumultuarie and licentious warres, where neither order, discipline, nor any forme of *quo militia* was ever obserued.

Skill But what wars are these that are so tumultuarie and licentious as you speake of?

Pill The tumultuarie warres of Flanders, and the licentious warres of France, which haue beene first undertaken by sedition, passion, and faction, and sithence continued by spoyle, disobedience, confusion, and disorder, where the precepts and prescriptions of the great Captaines that haue serued in the well formed warres of Emperours and Kings, hath bene neglected, despised, and set at naught, by
newe

newfangled fellows lately start up, with so much over-
weening of their owne experience; who under the pretence
of skill haue confounded all skill left vnto vs by the anti-
quitie, and in the stead thereof haue set by a discipline of li-
centious libertie, of spoiling, of robbing, of disobedience, and
disorder.

Skill I would not for forty shillings that any wise man
in England should be of this opinion, or that any soles were
so madde to beleue it.

Pill I can assure you it hath bin confidently perswaded,
by some that are not only knowne to be of a glorious wit,
but also of no lesse vnderstanding in matters military, it is
likewise receiued and beleued, and by no soles, but by a
great number of men of all sortes, that do not only thinke
those wars to be licentious, tumultuary, disorderd, begun,
maintained, and continued, against all right and honestie,
but it is further beleued amongst them, that those country
seruices are vnfit to make a souldier.

Skill But those men that wil not beleue that those coun-
try seruices are fit to make a souldier, will easily beleue
that one of those country priestes may make a god.

Pill I know not that, but what is this to the purpose?

Skill Because if their beleefe be not mere madnes, it is a
matter of more importāce to make a souldier thē to make a
god, for they wil not denie but a priest may make a god but
with three wordes speaking, but they wil not confesse how
those wars will breed a souldier in thirtie yeares training,
it is no matter therefore what they affirme or denie in any
thing, that are so blinde and senselesse in every thing.

Pill But for al that captaine Skill, there be many parti-
culars inferred against your Low-countrie captaines, that
are both odious and repproachful to be recited, and yet are so
receiued, digested, & believed for matters of truth, as wil
not easily againe be disswaded to the contrary.

Skill And may I craue to heare some of those particulars
what they be?

Pill I will not sicke with you for that, but will recite
some

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some of them as I haue heard them bragged, neither will I speake of the lowcountrie seruices, how they haue bene managed in these latter times, but how they were abused, corrupted, and confounded, before my L. of Leicester came into that countrie, sith which time, those abuses, corruptions, and confusions then hatched by, haue bin retained vntil this day, and are yet prejudicial to the lawes, disciplines, and ordinances left to vs by the great captaines of former ages, as in some particulars I will hereafter deliuer. But now a little of the seruices themselves, and first to speake of the intestine warres so many yeres continued in Fraunce, where they haue not had any possible meanes to maintaine any other then a deformed and disordered Militia, by reason of the long continuance of those troubles and dissensions, whereby the rentes, reuenues, and other aydes and supplies of treasure, haue so failed and wanted amongst them, that they haue not bin able to pay their armies, whereby to containe their men of warre in any discipline or order.

The like again is to be said of the Low countries, where both Mercenaries and subiects haue serued, but vnder a popular gouernment, consisting of diuers heades, where the hirelings of seuerall nations were drawne together, who though want of pay, (and hauing no other hope of reward for extraordinary desert) liued only by foraging, filching, spoiling, and stealing.

From hence it is not only to be presupposed, but may rather certainly be concluded, that such officers captaines and soldiers whoeuer, that haue had their training & practise in such licentious and tumultuary seruices (be they subiects or mercenaries) are neuer fit after to serue in any reformed warres, who will not be reduced to obtaine themselves vnder any tenor of lawes martiall, where order or discipline should be daily obserued.

Skil These allegations (captaine Pill) that you haue here inferred with such pregnancy and skill, we may well deride them into three parts.

Pill You meane you may diuide them into three parts,
I am

I am sure you will not deride nor scoffe at any thing that hath bene formerly auouched by men of great grauitie and wit: but let vs heare your diuision.

Skilfull Tell, seeing you will not haue it a derision, the summe of what you haue sayde is thus much in effect.

First, the want of pay, insoz ceth the breach of discipline.

Secondly, the breach of discipline insoz ceth but licentious and tumultuarie warres.

Thirdly, tumultuarie and licentious warres, traineth by vnfitting Souldiours to be employed in any reformed seruices.

Nowe for the first, that the want of pay insoz ceth the breach of discipline, it is not to be denied, but in those wars where Souldiours are not payde, or at the least prouided for of victual, that they must necessarily make disordered shifts, or famish: but both the discipline of warre consist one-ly in that point, that when Souldiours be kept from spoile, that then they be kept in true partiall discipline: I trow in the French & low countrey seruices they haue obserued other parts of discipline, or they could neuer haue triumphed in so many worthy victories, against so mightie enemies.

For the second, say that the disciplines of war were thus infringed and broken, both this second assertion (that the breach of discipline ingendzeth but tumultuarie and licentious warres) therefore necessarily follow: if that be a consequence, what warres hath there euer bene perfozmed, that may be saide to be legitimate, but that the disciplines in some meane or other, hath bene infringed by disordered persons, or what government vnder any Prince might not then be defected and discredited, that hath his lawes and ordinances many times broken by disordered subiects: and the church of God prescribeth disciplines, which are continually infringed and broken, but shall wee therefore when we haue occasion to speake of this church, put to any opprobrious or vnreuerend additions?

Now who knoweth not but that the Low-country wars were first undertaken for the rights and liberties of the

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Some of them as I haue heard them bragged, neither will I speake of the lowcountrie seruices, how they haue bene managed in these latter times, but how they were abused, corrupted, and confounded, before my L. of Leiceste came into that countrie, with which time, those abuses, corruptions, and confusions then hatched by, haue bin retained vntill this day, and are yet prejudicial to the lawes, disciplines, and ordinances left to vs by the great captaines of former ages, as in some particulars I will hereafter deliuer. But now a little of the seruices themselves, and first to speake of the intestine warres so many yeeres continued in Fraunce, where they haue not had any possible meanes to maintaine any other then a deformed and disordered Militia, by reason of the long continuance of those troubles and dissensions, whereby the rentes, reuenues, and other aydes and supplies of treasure, haue so failed and wanted amongst them, that they haue not bin able to pay their armies, whereby to continue their men of warre in any discipline or order.

The like again is to be said of the Low countries, where both Mercenaries and subiects haue serued, but vnder a popular gouernment, consisting of diuers heades, where the hirelings of severall nations were drawne together, who through want of pay, (and hauing no other hope of reward for extraordinary desert) liued only by foraging, filching, spoiling, and stealing.

From hence it is not only to be supposed, but may rather certainly be concluded, that such officers captaines and souldiers whosoever, that haue had their training & practice in such licentious and tumultuary seruices (be they subiects or mercenaries) are neuer fit after to serue in any reformed warres, who will not be reduced to obtaine themselves vnder any severitie of lawes martiall, where order or discipline should be duly obserued.

Skill These allegations (captaine Pill) that you haue here inferred with such pregnancy and skill, we may well deride them into three parts.

Pill You meane you may diuide them into three parts,
I am

I am sure you will not deride nor scoffe at any thing that hath bene formerly auouched by men of great grauitie and wit: but let vs heare your diuision.

Skil Well, seeing you will not haue it a derision, the summe of what you haue sayde is thus much in effect.

First, the want of pay, insoꝛce the bꝛeach of discipline. Secondly, the bꝛeach of discipline insoꝛce but licentious and tumultuarie warres.

Thirdly, tumultuarie and licentious warres, traineth by vnfitting Souldiours to be employed in any reformed seruices.

As to the first, that the want of pay insoꝛce the bꝛeach of discipline, it is not to be denied, but in those wars where Souldiours are not payde, or at the least pꝛouided for of victual, that they must necessarily make disordered shifts, or famish: but both the discipline of warre consisteth in that point, that when Souldiours be kept from spoyle, that then they be kept in true Partiall discipline: I trow in the French & low countrey seruices they haue obserued other parts of discipline, or they could neuer haue triumphed in so many worthy victories, against so mightie enemies.

For the second, say that the disciplines of war were thus infringed and broken, both this second assertion (that the bꝛeach of discipline ingendꝛeth but tumultuarie and licentious warres) therefore necessarily follow: if that be a consequence, what warres hath there euer bene performed, that may be saide to be legitimate, but that the disciplines in some meane or other, hath bene infringed by disordered persons, or what gouernment vnder any Prince might not then be defected and discredited, that hath his lawes and ordinances many times broken by disordered subjects: and the church of God pꝛescribeth disciplines, which are continually infringed and broken, but shall wee therefore when we haue occasion to speake of this church, put to any opprobrious or vnreuerend additions?

Now who knoweth not but that the Low-country wars were first undertaken for the rights and liberties of the country,

Country, to free themselves from a tyrannicall government, usurped by the Spaniards, as also for the free passage of the Gospel, and therefore both honest, iust, and godly: in like manner that of France, and therefore they cannot be sayd to be tumultuarie, licentious, disordered, &c. because their disciplines are broken, but they woorthily to be suspected that will so maliciously report of them.

Now for your third consequence, that souldiours trained by in those seruices, should be unfit to be otherwise imployed in any reformed warres: the conclusion is too ranke, it smells from whence it came, but is it not possible, that a Souldiour, because he hath bene diuened sometimes for want of pay to releue himself from samishment, (although by the breach of law) shall afterward reduce himselfe, and be conformable to any law, order, or discipline, where he should either be better provided for, or duly payed?

I could alleage presidents to make for my purpose, but what should I neede: these colericke coniectures are well enough knowne from whence they were first gathered, and by whome they haue sithence bene retained: by those that haue laboured at all times, and by all meanes, to disgrace and deface the whole actions both of France and Flanders, together with the actours, because they know we haue euermore fought in the defence of the Gospel, in despite of their masse.

Will I must confesse, Captaine Skill, that for my selfe I neuer came in Flanders nor France, and therefore am able to deliuer nothing of mine owne knowledge, but what I haue heard by other mens reports, neither will I adde any thing of mine owne inuention maliciously to slander, I shall not neede to do that, for it is too much that is already published and spread in the disgrace of your French and Lowcountry Captaines, if al be true that is reported, but leauing generalities, I will speake of some particulars. They are accused, not onely for despising, but also for peruerting the lawes, customes, orders and ordinaunces left vnto vs, by the great and notable Captaines of former ages inno-
uating,

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uating, altering and inuerting al our ancient proceedings in matters millitarie by them prescribed into orders of their owne inuention, attributing to themselves greater science and skill, then they will seeme to acknowledge in our predecessors, procuring mozeouer (so much as in them lieth) by frivolous obiections and exceptions, taken against our Archerie, to suppress and extinguish the seruiceable vse of our naturall English weapon, the long bow.

Skill The matter is not great (Captaine Pil) whether these accusations be of your owne making, or of any other mans reporting, for any great substance or witte that is in them, and for this particular, if were no great matter to acknowledge and confesse it to any man that would inforce it, for if it be a fault to innouate, I dare boldly auouch, there is no art, no science, no occupation, no handicraft, nor any other profession whatsoever, but they innouate, alter, and inuert, and that continually, and with great reason, when from age to age al things are perfected, bettered, and drawne to a forme of greater excellencie, then euer our predecessors vnderstood of.

The reason is, our ancestors from time to time haue left vnto vs in writing, whatsoever they attained vnto by any manner of skill, knowledge, science, or art, and we haue put vnto it our owne inuention, and what we can othertwise apprehend by dayly practise, I hope then that Souldiours are not generally so grosse headed, when there is likewise left vnto them in writings, a perfect forme, as wel of orders, lawes and disciplines, as of all other obseruations, whatsoever hath bene practised by the most skilful Captaines of al ages, but that they could something better their experience by twentieth or thirtie yeares practise, in the French & Holand countrey warres, where so many honourable seruices haue bene so continually performed.

Why should we any man finde fault with souldiours, though they innouate their orders in these days, according to the practise and condition of the time: may it not be done without any prejudice to the grounds and principles left

Country, to free themselves from a tyrannicall government, usurped by the Spaniards, as also for the free passage of the Gospel, and therefore both honest, iust, and godly: in like manner that of France, and therefore they cannot be sayd to be tumultuarie, licentious, disordered, &c. because their disciplines are broken, but they woorthily to be suspected that will so maliciously report of them.

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Pill I must confesse, Captaine Skill, that for my selfe I neuer came in Flanders nor France, and therefore am able to deliuer nothing of mine owne knowledge, but what I haue heard by other mens reports, neither will I adde any thing of mine owne inuention maliciously to slander, I shall not neede to do that, for it is too much that is already published and spread in the disgrace of your French and Lowcountrey Captaines, if al be true that is reported, but leauing generalities, I will speake of some particulars. They are accused, not onely for despising, but also for peruerting the lawes, customes, orders and ordinaunces left vnto vs, by the great and notable Captaines of former ages innovating,

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by the antiquitie. The phisitions do fetch their direction from Galen, Hypocrates, Plinie, Paracelsus, and such other that haue left vnto them prescriptions of phisicke, and from whom our phisitions at this present do fetch their greatest light, but if they should now minister the self same medicines vsed in those dayes by these learned phisitions, amongst tenne patients if they recovered one, they would kill all the rest.

Shall we say now, because our phisitions do innoate, that they do therefore attribute to themselves greater skill, learning, and science then they would acknowledge in their predecessors.

Now in martiall causes, although the antiquitie, who long before either Pusket or Caliuier were knowne, armed their people with crosbowes, targets, long swords, glaiues, partiſans, billes, and such other, and according to those sorts of weapons, proportioned their battailes, in suc, sort as they might bring most handes to fight, which was good and necessarie for that time, when the seruice consisted also together by incounters of Pell Mell, and that they were still brought to handie blowes, and had no other vse but of manuell weapons, but our squadrons being now armed with weapons of greater force, and more aduantage, haue left their auncient obseruations to themselves, & haue followed an order perfected by time, and bettered by experience, when euerie Captaines page is not ignorant that the alteration of weapon doth necessarilie inforce the alteration of order.

For our naturall English weapon the long bowes, if there be a naturall that would perswade better of the, then men of experience doo finde seruice in them, I pray God sende him more witte, and that is all the harme that I would wish him, and so we wil leaue them for the seruice in Finsburie fields to the wonted Regiments of Prince Arthur and the Duke of Shordich.

Pil Some other accusations wherewith your Low country captaines are charged withall, is in the neglect and little rare

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care they beled even in vsuall and ordinarie causes; For it is not vniuersall to any man that hath iudgement in matters military, but at the first forming of armies or regiments, there is likewise prescribed lawes martial, the which are still notified and made knowne, to the end, to containe their armies in obedience, and that none might transgresse through ignorance: but this your low countrey captaines haue still neglected, either vpon contempt, or by them not vnderstood, which betwaxeth their malice or want of skill.

The like neglect they beled in the stablishing of their companies at warres, and in the training and making ready of their souldiers in the practise of their weapons, in the providing for them of powder, shot, munition, victualles, and all other necessities, when they should march vpon any occasion of service.

These, and many other like matters that are of common course and vsuall to souldiers that are of the least skill and experience, were by them omitted and forgotten, or at the least nothing at all respected.

Skill I warrant you he that first smelt out these accusations, had a tender nose, but if he wanted not a little wit, I am sure he wanted a great deale of vnderstanding, when euerie souldier, if he be but of one moneths training, is not ignorant, that where they erect armies, they forget not in like case to erect lawes, the which at the first are vsually published with the sound of a trumpet, and after hanged vp in the market places, either of their camps or garrison towns, but these lawes and disciplines are euermore prescribed, by Generall and Counsellors of armies, and not by euerie particular captaine or Colonel (and yet a Colonel may institute for his owne private regiment) but not any lawes general, as your accusation would intimate.

Now the warres of the lowe countries were aswel supplied with Dutch, French, Walloons, Scottes, as English, which were all mercenary, and hirelings are euermore to obey lawes, and not to make lawes, but seruing vnder the prince of Orange and States, were likewise to receive their lawes.

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lawes from whom they receiued their pay.

But who was he of our Nation before my lord of Leicesters time that had authoritie to prescribe lawes, more then the French, Mallons, and Scottes? what, was it sir Iohn Norris, that noble gentleman of our Nation that had bene there a Generall, but is now dead, and what can I say of him now he is dead, that should not diminish the worth that was in him when he was aliuie: what shal I praise his birth and honour of his race: the world knowes it was noble, but what is that in comparison of his vertues? What then is his experience and knowledge in the field that advanced so many victories: if his friends should not applaude it, his foiles foes would yet confesse it: or should I commend his noble and couragious heart, that no misfortune could dismay, nor enemies euer daunt, why Flanders, France, Portingale and Spaine can witness this, and his enemies may spight at it, but speake against it they cannot: he is gone, but the honour he hath done to his countrey by his seruices wil not bee forgotten.

This noble gentleman, so highly renowned for his seruice amongst the whole regiments, of English, of Dutch, of French, of Mallons and of Scottes, was especially authorised and imployed as Generall: is there any man now so simple to beloeue that so great a captaine, reputed and well knowne to be sufficiently able to direct an army against so great an enemy as the Spaniard, was not of like skill to ordaine and establish lawes to containe his souldiers in order.

For those other neglects, for not establishing a Counsell at warres, for not practising of souldiers, and not for providing for them munition, victualles, and other necessities when they should march, if these objections were true, as they are most slanderous and false, yet whom would you blame by these neglects but the Prince of Orange, and the States, the which if any man would take vpon him to doe, I thinke al the souldiers of Europe would hiss at him (as well enough they might) for who were so simple as to think that

that so famous a captain as the prince of Orange, so worthily renowned for the managing of martial causes, were yet so careless or ignorant, as not to prescribe lawes, and likewise to provide necessities, as well as to procure forces.

Our English therefore are not to be charged with any one of these defects no more then were the Regiments of other Nations, namely the Dutch, the French, the Wallons, and Scots that served with our Nation, al in one predicament, and received altogether their lawes from whom they received their payes: and these ignorant ill-willers, that would spie out these faults, onely to depraue the English, are not much unlike the olde seruant that sometimes followed king Henry the eight, who bled euermore to strike him that stood next vnto him.

Pill. There be some other objections against your Lowe country captaines for shameful misdemeanors to their poore souldiers, some for sending their companies into dangerous attempts, better hoping of their dead payes, then of any seruice they could performe.

Some other vpon hatred and displeasure borne to the poore soldiers, would devise desperate enterprises, of purpose to be reuenged.

Others againe, when they had receined their souldiers pay, would likewise send them to the slaughter, that they might keepe their payes in their owne purses.

Skil. He thinks you should tel me of some other of our captaines, that conspired and practised with the Spaniards against the Prince and States that gaue them pay, and yet sought to betray them in all their enterprises and seruices, and sometimes would surrender vnto the enemies, towne and fortres which the Prince had committed to their garde and placed them there in garrison.

Pill. Captaine Skil, for these matters that I haue already deliuered vnto you, and many other, that I haue yet to speake of, all of them concerning the misdemeanours of our captaines sometimes toward their souldiers, sometimes towardes the country people that gaue them pay, and in whose

whose defence they came to fight, and although that in this nature thus alledged, there be many shameful abuses together with they haue bene charged, yet to my remembrance, I neuer heard of any mention made of treasons, or traiterous surrendering vp of towne to the Spaniards as you haue now mentioned, I would be loath to do them so much wrong as to charge them with those matters, that I neuer heard to be enforced against them.

Skil And yet I can assure you, that these matters which you say you neuer heard of, were very true, and there were diners of our English Nation that dealt most traiterously with the Prince, which did both conspire and surrender vp towne to the enemy: and what is the matter that these collections of treason were not as well gathered in the disgrace of our Low country captaines, being true, as the other which you haue heere enforced, being false, and some of them matters of impossibilitie, as those very last objections by you alledged (which euery souldiers boy could controule) as hereafter I wil make more evidently to appeare, euen to him that hath but halfe a sence: But first of al let any man of vnderstanding consider with himselfe from whence these accusations against our French and Low country captaines should procede, they are charged with many shameful abuses, the most of them vntrue, the rest not worthy the speaking of, and for some other that were odious and hateful indeede, namely, treason, trechery, confederacie, and conspiring with the Spaniard (and al of them apparant, and not to be gainsaid) these matters were neuer spokē of: nay these were no faults at al, but of my conscience were rather esteemed to be workes of Supererrogation, meritorious matters, and as good a ladder to scale heauen withal, as a Bul of Scala coeli purchased from the Pope.

Who seeth not now by whom these accusations haue bin collected: it is wel enough to be perceiued, that they haue only their proceeding, but from olde papistical enmitie, that hath euermore bene busied in defacing, disgracing, and detracting those French and Netherland seruices, and neuer sparing

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spurring to backbite those that haue indonoured themselves in defence of the gospel against their Pope: but the contrary part euermore faultlesse though they performed nothing, but by treason, deceit, forgery, and al manner of villany.

It is yet within the compasse of our owne memoizes, and hundreds of thousands are now liuing that do well enough remember the very maidenhead of these wars, when they were first undertaken, both in France and Flaunders, yea and in Scotland too, about matters of religion: howe long they were in armes and in ciuill broiles among themselves, whilest we liued here in England, by a most gracious gouernement in the calme of quiet peace: we heard of warres round about vs, but with vs we had none but at Westminster hall. Yet alarmes were sometimes hote amongst louers, when their Ladies were disposed alittle to be froward, our warlike instruments were laide aside, and almost out of vse, our shal trumpets for the field, were turned to sil musick for the chamber, our drummes to tabrets, our martial exercises to maie games: this sweet and quiet peace brought with it a carelesse securitie, our gallant youths forgoat to bestride the stirring steedes, and walked vp and downe with feathered fannes in their hands, maskes to couer their faces, and tawdry laces about their neckes, they became effeminate in al their demeanours, disguising themselves like demi-harlots. Our happines was enuied by our neighbors that did inuiron vs, but what could they doe to disturb our quiet: it was the Loyde of Hostes that protected our Elizabeth: and in the middelt of this our delicacie when the wars were in their greatest heat on euery side about vs, and their armies supplied by the most haughty hearts out of all the partes of Europe, some of our English blouds, no lesse thirstie of honoꝝ, than he that is most conetous for pelfe, shaking off that nicity which the time had the fattered thrust themselves into these seruices. Amongst the rest, our noble sir Iohn Norris became a president to his countrymen, a pattern for them to imitate, a lampe to giue them light, a loadstarre to direct them in that course, that leadeth vnto ho-

warre and so to endlesse fame: his example gaue hart & courage to many others that folowed him, they serued in defence of the Gospel, they attained by their seruice to that perfection of martiall knowledge, that they are thereby inabled to serue their prince and country against all foes domesticall or foreigne.

Howe they bare themselves in those seruices against the pride of the Spaniards, what honourable victories they obtained against the greatest and most experimented Captaines that chriſtendome could afford, what ouerthrowes they gaue vnto them, and how many notable exploits they performed against them, the world I am sure can witnesse, and the matters are yet so fresh in memorie, that Spight may wel fret himselfe to the gall, but to deprive them of their honour it can not, and therefore they are diuine to these thesedbare shifts, to slander them with misdeemeanour towards their souldiers, to accuse them with the breach of discipline, the neglect of lawes, with such a number of other trifles as would require a volume to expresse: and by this they would perswade, that such souldiers as had bin trained in such licentious and tumultuary wars were neuer after to be employed in any reformed seruices: and then if her Maieſtie should haue any occasion to vse souldiers, where should she seeke for conducters that were of sufficiencie? Disgrace those that haue hadde the practise and especiall training in Fraunce or Flaunders, and howe many are there left? or where should we seeke for them, vnlesse at your eighten penny Academies, where you tell mee you haue such reading of Partiall Lectures?

But I would not wish that we should hazard a dayes seruice to make tryall of the fortune and unknowne experience of these Academicall Captaines: for the others they haue bene sufficiently tryed, and therefore are the better to be trusted. But notwithstanding, these disgraces that they would offer to our French and Low-countrey seruices, I cannot thinke that any Captaine, Gentleman, or souldiour whatsoeuer he be, that hath bene trained by in those seruices

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ees (so maliciously reported on) do thinke the worst of their owne skil or abilitie, because enuie coupled with ignorance, hath sought to disable them: Dixit insipiens cannot disable them, nor make them to thinke so euill of themselves, but that they wil be alwayes ready to defend their credits, against any one that wil seeke to disgrace them. Leaving other circumstances, and to make a short conclusion for all together, I do not thinke how that honourable Earle (that is the glorie of this age for martiall matters) doth any whit at all mislike his owne worthinesse, because he hath voluntarily opposed himself in those French and Low countries: but howsoever it pleaseth him to thinke of himselfe, lette vs acknowledge him to be as he is, his countries comfort, our Englands Champion, whom Honor & Vertue haue stirred vp and pycked forward, but in the verie Aprill of his age, that he might become the garde to his Prince, the refuge of his Countrey, and the bulwarke and castle of defence to them both. And now Captaine Pill that it might appeare to any man of reasonable iudgement, howe vnlikely those accusations are to be true which you haue hitherto alleaged, let vs but examine your thre last obiections.

Some Captaines (you say) would send their Souldiers into dangerous attempts, rather hoping after their dead payes, then expecting any seruice they could performe.

Other some vppon displeasure were sent to the like enterprises: and a third some, when they had receiued theyr Souldiours payes, would send them to the slaughter, because they would keepe all in their owne purses.

What malicious reports be these: and yet not possible to be true, and I thinke (as I haue laide before) that euerie souldiers boy doth know it is death by the lawes of armes, for any Captaine to enterpryse any attempt, without direction from the Generall or Councell at warres: perhappes some will say it is trueth, where the disciplins of warres are truly obserued, but the exceptions that are taken against those countrey seruices, doth onely procede vpon that neglect, because there was neither discipline nor order regar-

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den: but let vs therefore a little looke into their actions, and let any man that hath iudgement but consider of the proceedings, it will appeare that a poore Prince assisted with a few states men, and should continue wars so many yeares together as they did against the King of Spaine, the Monarch of Christendome, for dominions, for money, for wealth, for expert and trained Souldiours, for great and notable Captaines and commanders raked together out of Spaine, Italy, Germany, Burgundie, Wallone, Albanie, yea, from all the parts of Europe, with the best Counsellers of warres, Ingeniers of all sorts, and for all purposes, the best experimented that Christendome could afford, or money procure, the which he consumed there in large and huge summes (as the world can witnesse) and yet two smal prouinces, Holland and Seland, a little soxter heaped next the sea, inuironed about with enemies on euerie side, ouermatched with numbers, what was it then that preferred them but their verie order and discipline, the which if it had bene so neglected, that euerie man might haue deuised and attempted what himselfe listed, their warres would quickly haue had an end, and the King again possessed of the countrie: it cannot therefore be gainesaid, but that next vnder God, their greatest defence was their order and discipline, prescribed and sette downe by the Prince of Orange. (who was not to seeke in those directions) and as by this I might well conclude, that they neither wanted discipline nor conduct, yet thus much I dare further anouch, and I do confidently affirme it of mine owne knowledge, that the breach of discipline in those Low countrey seruices, were euermore punished with as great seueritie, as in any warres that hath bene vnder taken in our age, in what place or countrey soeuer.

We may therefore conclude, that they wanted a great deale of matter, that were giuen to picke out so manifest vntruthes to slander those actions, and as much as in them did lie, to disgrace the adours.

Pill I perceiue Captains Skill the first tale is neuer good

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till the second be heard : you haue verie reasonably (in my opinion) discharged these accusations, but yet those that haue bene the first reporters of them, haue deliuered them for such vndoubted trutthes, and vnder the pretence of such Partiall skil, that there be many thousands in England that doe retaine them, and will hardly be dissuaded to a contrary. And seeing I haue begunne to rip vp your abuses, I will yet continue to tell you what I haue heard, ill fauoured matters they be as they haue inforced the against you, and therefore it would be much auailable to your reputations, if they could be sufficiently excused.

Skil It is no great matter (Captaine Pill) what euerie Cowecap doth conceiue in these matters against vs, he that would satisfie all, shall satisfie none: my desire is onely to satisfie the wise, and for any thing that you haue hitherto alledged, I thinke a scasse were more fit then an answer. But you say you haue more behind, you were best to empty your stomacke, for it is but drasse, and therefore out with all. Pill Your Low-countrie Captaines are accused for being so prodigal of their souldiours liues, for where it is euer more a custome amongst Captaines that are of skill or iudgement, vpon the assault of any place fortified, to make their approaches with trenches, crosse trenches, gabions, and other inuentions as the ground will admit for the sauing of their souldiours liues, and neuer to make any attempt, untill by batterie they haue made a sufficient breach, and haue displaced the flankers, and other artillery of the enemies that might be noysome or dangerous: but these despisers of all discipline Militarie, haue been so careless of their souldiours, that neglecting these principles, they haue sent them as it were to the butcherie, to giue assaults to Castles, sconces, and other such fortifications, without either regard or consideration of any of these promises before spoken of.

Skil I warrant you captaine Pill he that comes in with all these trickes for the surprizing of fortifications, hath heard much reading at your London Accademy, and I be-

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heene can better direct howe to assault the Castle in such
 fithstrate, then to instruct them that haue had any continu-
 ance in the Low country seruices, which doth rather consist
 in assaulting and defending fortifications, moze then in any
 other incounters in the fiede, and therefore he that serueth
 there, is not to learne how to giue assaults.

For the surprizing of any Citie, Towne, Castle, Fort,
 Sconce, or whatsoeuer other place fortified, it is to be done
 by composition, by famine, by mining, or by assault.

Composition is first embraced by all good Captaines, for
 that is done without the spilling of blood on either side.

To winne by famine is vsed of policy, for the safetie of
 his people that doth besiege, but many times enforced by
 constraint, when the situation of the place admitteth of no
 other forcible meane.

Mining is especially preferred, as well for expedition, as
 the lightnesse of the charge, if the ground will permit.

Assault is the last refuge, and cannot be vsed vppon any
 plot that is well fortified without batterie, yet in some other
 places not thoroughly holpe by nature, nor fully supplied by
 Art are faultable inough with ladders and other prouision
 commonly vsed, before great Ordnance was inuented:
 and in the Low countreys wee had many earth workes,
 commonly called sconces, some of greater, and some of lesse
 importance, builded vsually vpon streights or passages, and
 fortified accordingly as was behouefull for the place: and
 where any one of them were found noysome or preiudicial
 for seruice intended, there was likewise vsed such force and
 meane for the taking of the in, as the situation, or strength
 or force of the place required: and I haue knowne diuers of
 those Sconces haue bene taken by scale without any artil-
 lerie, and yet without the losse of any one of the assailants:
 and what and if at some other time wee haue lost men by
 assaults: it is not possible but if the defendants wil do their
 induour as they ought, that assailants can enter without
 some losse of men, no not when there is made breaches in a
 wall to be assaulted, and therefore he that could finde this
 fault

fault, I warrant you had god abilitie to find fault at any thing.

Pill Your Captaines are yet once againe accused of flat cosonage towards their Souldiours, who to defeat them of their payes, gaue them allowance of bread and cheese, and other victuall of the basest sort, which they call by the name of Pouand, a strange name, and as strange a deuise to cosin the poore men of their mony, & in steede thereof to giue them pouand, a matter neuer heard on before, as it is reported by men of great experience, some of them yet liuing, that do wonder at the inuention, and doe very bitterly repproue those that were the first inuenters.

Skil Is bread and cheese become so contemptible, that it is reputed amongst the basest kinde of victuall, & shamefull flaunder to Essex, where so many good Cheeses are daily created, and no lesse indignitie to Wales, where a peece of roasted cheese is meate for a Monarch: but for those that will accuse our Captaines of cosinage towards their souldiours, because they gaue allowance of Pouand, if there be but as much partiall knowledge in any of them, as there is god meate but in the paring of an Essex cheese, I will be contented to be tryed by al the captains pages that euer haue but scene an army to march about any expedition, and if they shall finde mee guilty, I am contented to suffer the most unhappie death that euer any man did yet indure, (and that I thinke were to be peckt to death with C apons.)

The name of Pouand you say is strange, and the deuise vbled by our Captaines no lesse strange, to cosin their souldiours vnder the pretence of giuing them Pouand to keepe away their payes. For my life they that doo so much admire the name, do thinke that the word Pouand was first deuied from an Ostrie, for there the Ostrer doth keepe his pouender and giues it out againe from thence by measure, and many of these Ostrers if they be not well lookt vnto, wil cosin a mans horse mightily in their Pouender, and this is the cause that they suspect Captaines of the like cosinage towards their Souldiours in their Pouand: and I rememb

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ber a fellow that once brought his maister a reckoning of riding charges, and amongst many Items put downe in his bill, one was Item for a penicworth of horse bread two pence. His master beganne to chafe at the reckoning, and desired his man to make a better exposition of that part of the fect, the fellow making a low turtlesie downe to the ground, answered, sooth sir I dranke a pot of Beare whilst my horse was eating of his bread: now if there were any Captaine that vsed the like deceit, to drinke a canne of Rensh wine whilst his souldiours were eating of their provision, and after would put it downe vpon his souldiours accounts, then here comes in the cosinage, for otherwise, what commoditie for a Captaine to haue his souldiours to be payde in provision: if there bee any gaines to be made, it failes out to them that doe provide and deliuer it, which is not the Captaine, and therefore to his hinderance, for if he would make a profite of his companie, hee should doe it much rather with receiuing of readie money, then in receiuing of his souldiours payes in Provision.

And for those that will affirme that the deliuering of Provision was a matter neuer heard on before, but inuented onely by our Low-countrie Capitaines, let them pretend as much Partiall knowledge as they list, but I think they could not deuise to lay open their ignorance more apparently, then not to know that souldiours must of necessity be victualled vpon many occasions, how well soeuer they be otherwise payed.

One example that is familiar vnto vs I thinke may wel suffice: her maiestie hath seruices in Ireland, and in manie parts of that countrey, if she should pay her souldiours with ready mony, and not make provision of victualles for them, where otherwise they can come by none, they might quickly famish with their mony in their purses.

This necessitie therefore hath euermore bene carefully provided for, and the fault finders that do think it so strange a matter, that souldiours should sometime receiue their pay in victualles, no doubt their service hath bene in plentifull places,

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places, where they might either go to ordinarie, or send to the cookes for their dinner: yet I am not ignorant that victuallers wil sometimes follow a campe, but not at all times, no; yet in all places: and this I prouand that is here so much wondered at, was no other but as her maiestie prouided for her Garrisons in Barwick, and as all other Princes in Europe doe and haue done, wheresoeuer they haue held: or do hold Garrisons of souldiours: and these provisions are not commonly made of Pheasants, Partrich, Quailles, Capons, and other like dainties, but vsuall of Cheese, Butter, Bacon, Saltfish, and such other victuall as shall neede no great cookerie, no; be long in making ready, especially vpon any expedition of seruice.

Those therefore that would perswade this victualling of Souldiours to be a matter neuer heard on before; but invented by our Low-countrie Captaines, for their own profit and commoditie, they haue herein shewed themselves to be most simple and ignorant, and but in ordinarie matters appertaining to the warres.

Pill Captaine skill, if I should prosecute these occasions accordingly as I haue heard them enforced against your French and Low-countrie Captaines, I might yet inferre a hundred other obiections; and all of them verie bitter and disgracefull vnto them: but I see your answers are such as if rather falleth out to their disgraces that were your accusers, then by any meanes reproachfull vnto you that were accused: I will therefore omitte to speake any further in these particular cauils, and will come to a matter of greater importance, being a general l, the which if it be true, as the reporter doth confidently protest, it may concerne no lesse then our vtter wacke and ruine; and doth threaten in the ende the destruction of our English nation.

Skill Parie Captaine Pil, he that could spie me out that infirmitie, were worthe to haue a physicians fee, but he that could prescribe a medicine for the maladie, were worthe to be esteemed the Ascalaphus of his country.

Pill The sickness is known, and the cause from whence
it
proceeding

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proceeding is likewise gathered, by those that are of great account for their experience and skill, it is found to proceede from a vehement hotte humour, abounding in your Low-countrie captaines, who vnder the pretence of the excellencie of your weapons of fire (your Gunnet and Caliner) would thereby bring in carousing and drunkenness, to the abolishing and vtter subuerting of our artillerie, and the vse of our long-bowes, the ancient and naturall weapon of our countrie, by the meanes whereof we haue triumphed in many notable victories from time to time, and age to age, the which weapon if we should now neglect, (as our Low-countrie captaines doe altogether indevour) this Noble Realme of England so famed and renowned by the service of our artillerie, should now be left to the spoyle, and remain but as a prey, fitte for euerie enemy that would attempt to assault vs.

Skil Without doubt he that was the first finder out of this disease, had as great knowledge & skill as the physician, who would needes perswade his patient that he had taken a surfeit by eating of a horse, because he saw a saddle lie vnder the sickmans bedde. But in goodfellowshippe captaine Pill tell me true, is this an obiection against our Low-countrie captaines, that vnder the pretence of the weapons of fire, they would bring in carousing and drunkenness, by meanes whereof (you say) they would suppress the exercise of the long bow, & whereby our countrie should be left a fitte prey to euerie enemy that would attempt vs.

Pill Captaine Skil, what I haue receiued, that I haue deliuered, I haue tolde you the true circumstance of that I haue heard reported, if I haue failed in the manner, I am not mistaken in the matter, if perhaps I haue something missed of the words, yet I am sure I haue not erred in the sence.

Skil Why now I know what the reason is why cookes will neuer be without a Jacke of beere in the kitchen, and what is it that makes Smiths to bee so loeall, that if you smite them at the forge, you shal be sure to finde them in the ale,

alehouse, they haue to deale with a thirstie element, the element of fire, that brings in this carousing & drunkenness, that againe expels the vse of the long-bow, the neglect whereof threateneth Englands ouerthrow.

So now we howe these matters are depending the one of the other, tyed together with a packthread, and I will shew you a similitude how it may come to passe, an ancient collection to proue by like circumstance that drinking may bring a man to heauen: and thus sayth the text: He that drinkes well, sleepest well, He that sleepest well thinkes no harme. He that thinkes no harme sinneth not, and he that sinneth not goes to heauen: here is now the conclusion, and he that can choppe me vp such Logicke, I hope may beare the bell for a Logician: let him go where he list.

Now for your water-casting wiſards, that in the deepness of their experience (as you say) haue looked into Englands estate, and do think that the neglect of the long bowe may breed such a surfeit as you speake of. God be thanked the sickness is nothing so dangerous, as the silly ignorant sort would perswade it, the nature of the disease hath bin examined, and carefully considered of by men that are no lesse renowned for their wisdom & experience, then honored for the loue & zeale they beare to their country. they haue found the first to be a matter of no importance, but rather thought it beuouefull and necessary for vs to inquire our selues to that diet, which all the nations of the worlde besides do especially account of, and haue retained as a restorative to their better lasty, which being by vs neglected, might be such a preparatiue for an enemy to take aduantage by, as your Physicians could neuer be able to restore, not with all the medicines they could compound, eyther of their crossebols or long bolues.

A sole scrauch him then say I that would giue vs such purgations, or vnder the pretence of a Cullis whereby to comfort vs, would giue vs indeede a potion that would vndoubtedly poison vs.

What should I say more then to these calculating com-

passions; that are so narrowly tied to lo into common worldly
causes, that they thinke the countries good is evermore
neglected, where their owne foolish prescriptions are not at
wayes obserued.

Let such vaine prognosticators salue what they list, God
hath blessed England; he hath plentifully poured his bless-
ings vpon vs: first, in our most gracious Elizabeth, whom
he hath established, and holden vp in despite of all Popish
practises, he hath deliuered her when she hath bene compas-
sed with many dangers, whereby he hath shewed his mercy
to vs her people; to whom she hath still gouerned in happy
peate and prosperitie: He hath giuen her the assistance of a
most grane and discreet counsell, amongst the rest Bughley
by name, the man admired through christendome, whose
watchful eyes to prevent insuing mischiefs, haue evermore
bene vigilant; whose wisdom next vnder God and her
Majestie hath bene the best conseruer of our quiet, and hap-
py peate, whose experience in commonwealth causes, is sin-
gular to himselfe. And so, the action of warre. A noble erle
of Essex, how is England blessed in thee: thou hast honoured
the country with thy victories obtained, enriched it with
the spoiles of thine enemies, freed it from the force of foes
that were ready to assaile it, whom thou hast dismayed and
dammned at their owne doores.

If I should now speake of domesticall matters, for the ex-
ecution of lawe and iustice here at home, according to equi-
tie, right, and conscience, England may thinke it selfe happy,
and the Court of Chancery hath as great cause to glorie,
where Egerton adorneth the bench.

Thus you may perceiue (captaine Pill) that England is
in no such distresse as your dreaming diabolus woulde per-
swade, they threaten vs to be almost at deaths doore, when
there is no manner of signe no; shew of sickness, you see who
they be, captaine Pill that are Englands watchmen, and haue
so consecrated themselves to the god of the commonwealth,
that what perills may passe which shall not be by them dis-
cerned, and what foraine practises or domesticall disorders

can be so platted out, which shall not be by them both fore-
fence and purchase; if it doe either concerne the good or ill of
our country.

Pill Captaine Skil: me thinkes you haue bene too com-
pensionous and briefe in the subject that you haue now under-
taken, in which of twaine is not enough to comprehend their
praises, that would aske a longer discourse than all that hath
bin hitherto debated betwene vs: but will not pour words
be taken in ill parte for there be many honourable persona-
ges in England, that without doubt are faithfull and firme
both to their princes and country, that perhaps will haue
the up, and thinke themselves to be greatly wronged; that
any one should be so particularly preferred before them, es-
pecially for those causes.

Skil: I hope the praise of one is no dispraise to another,
neither am I ignorant; but am undoubtedly perswaded,
that there be many, as well of the nobilitie, as other of the
inferiour sort and calling, that are of equall desire, though
not of equall abilitie: I commend him that can follow to the
wise advice of others, but I preferre him that can foresee pe-
rils that are to come, and is able to discerne of things neede-
full and requisite: My conclusion is, I honour all that are
worthy of honour: but I say againe (and without offence
to any I hope I may boldly auouch it) these that I haue na-
med are the ornaments of England, the Ministers of God
next vnder her Maiestie, by whom England is made happy;
the one famous for his counsell, the second renowned for his
magnanimitie, the third reuerenced for his iustice, and all of
them honored for the care they haue of their countries good,
three notable pillars of our commonwealth, to whom I may
adde a fourth, the noble Lord of Hunsdon, who for his fide-
litie to his prince, matched with equall loue to his country,
together with the magnificence and noblenesse of his mind,
may march in equall ranke with those that are most highly
honoured, and for their vertue most worthily renowned.

You see now (captaine Pill) that England is not so negli-
gently prouided for, that it should runne into such despera-

sed danger as your squint-eyed Diviners would pretend to foresee; but let them dream and make what doubts they list, they are to be suspected of some defects that doe seeme to be so feareful of the moonne-shine in the water."

Pill But captaine Skil, you deale somewhat too roundly in this matter, I woulde wishe that you coulde more aduisedly consider of my speeches, the matter objected is against your Low country Captains, who vnder the pretence of the excellency of the weapons of fire, would bring in carowling and bunkennesse, and thereby would bitterly suppress and abolish, our longbowes, & archery of England. From hence issueth this danger to our countrey, that being bereaued of this weapon which our predecessors haue euer found so vnaileable, and of so great advantage against their enemies, we should thereby so weaken and disable our selues, against any that would invade vs, that we should rather be left to the spoile, than be able to make defence: and although that those noble patrons of our countrey which you haue named, are sufficiently able to discerne of perils (as I doe acknowledge their vertue to be farre exceeding the commendation you haue deliuered, so there is no doubt but that they in their wisdomes can well enough consider how this neglect of ours may threaten greater danger and turne to a woole consequence than you do conceine of, when it is auouched by them of knotone experience, and the reasons fortified by many presidents of great antiquitie & atone from Alexandria in Egypt, from Constantinople in Greece, and from many other countries and kingdomes: besides, it is proued by many examples, what notable conquests, haue bene obtained by the vse of bowes, and how many nations, kingdomes, and common wealths haue bene subuerted, surprized, and brought into seruitude, where they haue neglected that notable weapon, and set it aside.

Skill If our Low country Captaines do pretend such excellencie in the weapons of fire, they do it by good authoritie, hauing had sufficient triall of the effects, but how these weapons should bring that carowling and bunkennesse you do speake

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speake of, I protest it passeth my conceit howe it may hang together.

For drunkennesse I do pronounce it to be a most detestable vice, beastly and hateful in the opinion of any man, that is woorthy the reputation of a man, and I haue knowne some of our low country Captaines, that haue bene shamelesse when they were drunke, but they haue blushed again when they were sober, but he that delighteth in that vice, is a fitter companion for swine, then woorthy to associate men.

And is it our low country captaines that haue brought in the exercise of carousing and drunkennesse, I wonder at them that could trauel so farre countries, to fetch so many presidents, for the antiquitie of bowes, and could not haue brought one president with them, for the antiquitie of drunkennesse, if it were but how Alexander killed his Clytus.

And for carousing it was new christned in England from a carouse to a hearty draught, I thinke before the most of our low country Captaines were borne.

Now for this neglect of the long bow which is thought to be a matter of such danger, and such a weakening to our country, we may commend them a litle for their care that do so feare it, but neuer a whit for their experience that would perswade it, and least of all for their wit that would belene it. For the presidents that haue bin so transported from those far countries in the behalfe of the long bow, they are all as patte for the purpose (that should be proued by them) as he that alleaged that Tenterden sleepe was the cause of Goodwin sandes.

Pill. If you will denie presidents because they are farre fetched, that do make good in the behalfe of the bowe. we will bring you some nearer home, and I hope you will not denie our own histories & chronicles, that do concerne our owne actions, some of them within the compasse of mens memories yet liuing, how many testimonies are there recorded in the behalfe of our archery, what seruices they haue performed what conquests they haue atchieued, & what victories they haue obtained, I shal not need to relate them in particular, they

ted danger as your squint-eyed Diviners would pretend to foresee, but let them dream and make what doubts they list, they are to be suspected of some defects that doe seeme to be so fearful of the manne-shine in the water.

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they are so apparant to every reader, that I hope you will not doe your selfe that wrong to gainsay them.

Skill And with what discretion can you or any one for you alleadge them: you bring vs out presidents, what seruises have bene performed by our archery in times past, but where was then that tolleritie and readines in the weapons of fire that is now practised: you tell me of conquests performed, and victories obtained, but it was in diebus illis, when neither musket nor caliver were knowne nor heard of.

I confesse the bow hath bene a weapon of great effect in service: but the case is altered, every thing hath his time, and I could wish with all my heart, that our archery of England were but by the one halfe so effectuall, as ignorant men will dreame of.

Pill What the bow is more effectuall then you do esteem it, is to be proued by such forcible reasons, as your tow country captaines are not able to resist, let vs but seeke the testimonies of the holy scriptures, and wee shall finde what account the pzophet David made of that weapon after the overthrow & death of king Saul, besides in one of his Psalmes he calleth them, A mightie power, and in another place, The vessels of death.

Another of the pzophets sent from the almighty to terrefie the people for their sinnes, speaking in the person of G D saith, What he had bent his bow, and made ready his quiver. Many other places might be infered to confirme the fury and force of that weapon, if men were not overmuch given to infidelitie and misbeliefe.

Skill If the Pzophet David had slaine Goliath with an arrow out of a bow, as he kilde him with a stone out of a sling, I perceiue there would haue bene some great hold taken of the matter, for the credit of bowes, but if he had kilde him with a bow, must it therefore be granted that bowes did excell all other weapons: Sampson kilde a great number of the Philistines with the iawbone of an Ass, yet if I should fight I would not trust to that weapon, if I might haue

haue mine owne choice.

And because it is said by the prophet, that he had bent his bow, doth that therefore conclude the bow to be most excellent of all other weapons? This logicke is much like vnto his, that affirmed men to be more godly then women, his reason was, because there is a towne in Surry that is called Godlimc, but there is neuer a towne in England y^e is called Godlywomen, ergo men are more godly then women. And because God hath said, I haue bent my bow, and neuer makes mention that he had chargde his musket, Ergo the bow is better then the musket. And I remember another place where it is w^ritten, He had whetted his sword, but it is not said that he had made sharpe his browne bill, & therefore the sword is a better weapon then a browne bill: But captaine Pill, let vs leaue this logicke, for it is twentie to one if euer it be knowne, the schole boyes wil laugh at vs.

Pill Let them laugh (captaine Skill) at your errorr that do attribute such commendations to your musket and caliner, that thereby you would condemne and suppress all other weapons of farre greater excellencie and vse, but if you will needs giue such principalitie to your weapons of fire, it is neither your musket nor caliner that are so singular, but as it is resolu'd by captains of great Skill and knowledge, the harquebus is to be preferred before them both, and that for many considerations by them alleaged.

Skil And what might be the considerations that your great captaines haue so preferred the harquebus?

Pill For that the Harquebus is more maniable in a skirmish, and a great deale more light to make a hastie retreat, where your Pusketiers in such actions through the weight of their p^{ar}ces, are diu'en to throw them quite away and to trust altogether to their heles.

Skil When I perceiue the errorr of our Low-country captaines is, because they would arme their people in such sort as they might be able to put the enemy to a retreat, but your great captaines cleaue contrary would haue them

to appointed as they might be light and nimble to runne away themselves: and he that should bring his men but furnished with paltry harquebus to incounter the musket and caluier were fitter indeede to runne away from an ennemie that would offer to assaile him, than be able to tarry by him in the field.

¶ Pill And al the reason you can make, is, because of the farre shooting, and it is not denyed, but that your musket wel charged with good powder, would carry a ful bullet 24. or 30. scores: but yet that any of them should giue their volies aboue tenne, twenty, or thirty paces at the vttermost, is accounted but a mere mockerie.

¶ Skil And if the farre shooting be of no aduantage, whie then there is no oddes betwene a bodkin and a pike, but in truth one of the most especiall causes that muskets are so much regarded, is because they may be brought 24. and 30. scores off to beate vpon squadrons either of horsemen or footmen, to bryake and dismember them: and in like maner to beate passages or groundes of aduantage taken by the enemy, or for many other seruices, either assailing or defending as wel in the field, towne, trench, or where, or howsoever, the musket is still found to be a weapon of wonderfull aduantage, and onely by the farre shooting: but for those that do no better valesw of the musket, but to giue their volies at tenne, twenty, or thirtie paces: it should seme they knew of no other seruice in the field, but when enemies do meet, they will strait brawe their squadrons to an encounter, which sheweth their little vnderstanding, for when such meetings do happen, captains that be of experience are accustomed to place the stand of pikes (wherein consisteth their strength) vpon some ground of aduantage, and as nere as they can to ill bring some hedge, some ditch, some thubbes or bushes, or some other like helpes, betwene them and the enemy, because they would not lie open to the musket shot, that the other will then thrust out, (if they can be suffered) to play vpon these squadrons or armed men 24. and 30. scores off. Aole shot being thus shaken off, opportunities and aduanta-

A Martiall conference.

ges are watched on both sides, as well by horsemen as foot men to take their times and occasions, their Squadrons standing still a good distance the one from the other, with wings, fillets, and troupes of shot, to give those volies at hand (that you speake of) if they should be charged, and many times it falleth out, that Squadrons be broken and put to a retreat, by aduantages taken and procured by these skirmishes, but especially being galled and beaten by the furie of shot a farre off, when the Squadron of the contrary part hath not so much as appeared in sight: those weapons therefore are most to be valued that wil do his execution farthest off, and if it were possible to deuise a weapon that would annoy and spoyle an enemy in distance as farre as these muskets, such a weapon were these times moze auailable for seruices at length, and tenne times moze profitable for such exploits, then once to give volies so nere at hand, to be deliuered within that distance of tenne, twentie, or thirtie paces as you speake of.

And yet for those seruices when occasion shall require, what weapon moze terrible than the musket, that within twentie, thirtie, fortie, or a hundred paces, will deliuer foure or five caluer shot at one discharge, to the wonderful spoile of such as wil appoach them: and for this occasion the fillets and wings of battelles and Squadrons, are compounded of those weapons to give their volies if they shuld be charged: and this is the cause that the Spaniard finding this weapon to be of so great importance for all manner of seruices, hath conuerted the greatest part of his shot into musketires: and this is the cause that such of our Nation as haue serued against them, may the better speake of that weapon by experience what themselves haue found.

For others that haue but gathered their presidents from tabling houses or other ordinaries, may better speake according to their knowledge then according to the matter. And who be those that wil euermoze contend against that weapon, but such as haue not seene their effect and seruice in the field, but inso: much against them their hundred yere olde examples, before shot was euer perfitted, or in manner knowne.

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Pill Thus I do see the English men are very sharp wilted to make reasons against our selves, and Lord how ready we be to change a certaintie for an uncertainty. But will you so disable our bowes, that you will allow them no place in the field? I hope against horsemen you will do them some favour, for to spoile and gale horses, what weapon of more effect, or who will deny them that right?

Skill But how shall wee bring them to that place of service where they may do this annoyance to horsemen: it is not to be denied but that Archers would performe great service against horsemenne: if they might be brought to the place where they might serve, but as they must be fortified, either with hedge, ditch, or other artificiall meanes that horsemen may not charge them, so the place from whence they may do their execution, must be open and plaine, where whilst they drawe their bowes, their bodies must remaine in open view. Now what enemy of iudgement would suffer them to keepe such a ground, but that with three or foure hundred musketiers they would displace two thousand Archers, and without any manner of danger to themselves, by reason of their faire shooting, so that he might be counted a very weake witted enemy that would suffer vs to bring our bowes where they might performe any exploit either against horsemen or footemen, but contrariwise for the musket and the calliuer every hedge, every ditch, and every thicket, which almost every ground affordeth, is such an advantage for them, that they will not be displaced, but with great daunger and losse of the assailants, where they haue once planted and settled themselves.

Again, they can serve out of every bush, and from behind every tree undiscerned or seen by those that shall serve against them, whereas the Archer must stand in open shew, and make himselfe an open marke to his enemy, or other wise he cannot serve at all.

Pill Why then belike all the advantage that your shot hath, is to hide themselves. But let me aske you a question: if a thousand of your shot, and a thousand of well chesed Archers

chers were together in the plaine felde; which part would
you there take if you might haue your owne choise?

Skil. But in what field doe you meane (Captaine Pill)
let me first know that.

Pill. And what a question is that to be asked, if it be in a
field where there is no advantage of conert for your shot
to hide themselves in, I take no other exceptions to anie
field.

Skill. Spare sir but I doe, and your question may be full
of subtiltie for I remember there was one that should haue
bene begged for an Ideot, and such a question was asked of
him, how many legges a sheepe had, he asked againe whe-
ther they meant a sheepe as he went to the butchers, or as
he came from the butchers: why, what difference make you
in that (sayd the demaunder:) great difference sir (answered
the other) for a sheep going to the butchers hath foure legs,
but comming from the butchers, hath but two legges and
two shoulders. And your question may haue the like fallace,
for you aske me if a thousand shot and a thousand Archers
were in the felde, whose part I would take, nowe if you
meane in Finsbury field, as they are there with the Duke of
Shordich and Prince Arthur, I would then take part with
the Archers, for then I were sure I should neuer catch
harne with a bullet, and I should haue good chere, during
the time of our seruice: but if it were in the field where they
should serue for their liues the one against the other, if I
should then say I would take part with the Archers, I am
afraide, Captaine Pill, that you would begge mee for an
Ideot.

Pill. And I doe knowe them againe that do thinke their
experience as good as yours, or as any that shall say to the
contrarie, that dare vndertake with one thousand of choise
Archers, to incounter with two thousand of the best shotte
you can bring into the field.

Skill. I would some of those vndertakers would vnder-
take to build vp Boutes steeple, for me thinks they should
aduenture to vndertake any thing.

Pill They dare adventure to undertake this, and so to discomfite your shotte, that they shall not dare to helpe they faces in the field, or else they will lose their lives, or will waiger for the performance al that ever they haue in the world.

Skill Say if they go to waigering, I am the contrary part will play them faire play, for I will lay them Cockpit-odds that they shall not do it.

Pill Sir I dare undertake you shall be taken vpppe, but what is that you call Cockpit-odds?

Skill Cockpit-odds is lightly two to one, and he that will undertake to make good your challenge, I will lay both my pantofles to his wit.

Pill It should seme Captaine Skill you are driuen to a bare word, that are faine to shift out your matters with such vnfauourie iests.

Skill I hope they smell as sweete as the challenges you do make, of one thousand Archers against two thousand of our best shotte.

Pill I tell you againe, there be thousands of that opinion, and do thinke that an Archer hand to hand, is by great odds too hard for any shotte you are able to turne against him.

Skill I tell you againe they are in a wrong opinion, and I account him a verie insufficient shot that dare not undertake any Archer that ever I heard on: vnlesse it be one.

Pill It is happie you will confesse one Archer of such sufficiencie, but I pray you who may that one Archer be that you stand so much in doubt of?

Skill Parie sir it is Cupid, he that neuer shotes but he doth some mischief (they say) and therefore there is no dealing with him, and I would neuer wish any friends to meddle with him.

Pill I perceiue these iests will neuer be left off, but they are your best helpes, and therefore to be borne withall.

Skill I must commend you (Captaine Pill) for your modestie, but you are deceiued, I vse no such helpes for want of matter, but I haue learned that scrulous questions are fittest

sittest to be answered with a yea, or no: to be answered at all, and those comparisons that you haue made of your Archers with our Musket and caluer, are so farre from al reason and iudgement, that they are to be laughed at by anie man that hath either reason or iudgement, or any manner of sparke of experience in him.

Pill: If this be inough, that because captaine Skill hath thus affirmed, therefore it is true, there shal neede no further answer, but if you wil truely discern of these doubts, let vs examine what may be the defects as wel of your weapons of fire, as of our archers, or what casualties may fall out that may hinder their seruices: by this you shall perceiue which weapon is of greatest effect; and likeliest to do service.

Then first for your Caluer and Musket: there be manie accidents that may happen through the default of such soldiers as shall vse them, for besides they may neglect to keepe their peeces in seruiceable sort: so in the very instant of their seruice they may faile in their sight, as commonly with too much haste they are accustomed to do, whereby they neuer shote greatly to indanger: againe their bullets being too low, may flie vncertain, in continuance their peeces may ware hot, there may be fault in their powder, there may be fault in their match, there may be fault in their charging, there may be many other faults and casualties, that are incident to shotte, and all of them an impeachment to the seruice: but for Archers, what is there moze then the breaking of the bow, or the breaking of the string, that may be anie impediment to them: and this is a verie seldome casualty, and may be prevented with a matter of nothing, for a little Ware, rosine, and tallow tempered ouer a fire, and chafed in with a wollen cloth, preserveth the bow: & for the string, if it be made of good hempe, water, glew, and strongly whipped with silke or fine thred, it will not faile in a long continuance: the Archer therefore being least subiect to mischances, is of greatest importance, and readinesse for seruice.

Skill: But captaine Pill, this argues you to be a very partiall:

partial phittian, I would not likewise find out some medicines
for shot whē you haue found so many infirmities depending
vpon them, but haue left them to all their diseases, as
though they were incurable: but if I would deale as nar-
rowly with your archers, as you haue done with our shot,
I could pick out moze casualties then the breaking of a bow
or a bow string, for it might be they might lose their sho-
ting gloves, and thē they could not shot for hurting of their
fingers. Againe, they might haue soze elbowes, and then
they could not draw their bowes: but especially they are to
take heed whē they shot, that they shot not the fethered end
of their arrowes forwards, for then they wil neuer slee right.

Pil. What gaude be these you do stil apud your self vntoe
giue it would be moze for y credit of your cause, to answer
with moze discretion, these frumps are to little purpose, but
rather to the discredit of that you would fairest maintaine.

Skill. Capitaine Pil. I do deale moze discretly with you
then I perceiue you can conceiue of: for you know it is faire
play in euery tennis court to tolle you backe againe your
owne balles, that your selfe haue first serued to the house:
and because you speake of gaudes, what gaudes be these that
you haue inferred against shot: that they may neglect their
sightes, that their bullets may be too low, that there may be
fault in their poudre, that there may be fault in their match,
that there may be fault in their charging: what obiections
be these but gaudes and trifles: for who would allowe him
for a shot, that taketh no sight of his marke but shooteth at
random, or that careth not whether his poudre be wet or
dry, or that will not keepe his pœce in seruiceable sort from
rusting or furring, or that knowes not how to giue his pœce
her due charge, but will put in the bullet befoze the poudre,
or that thinketh his pœce neuer to be charged till hee hath
filled the barrell to the very toppe: I haue knowne such,
but what of this: are these things to be reckoned in the dis-
paragement of perfect shot: no they are but cauils, and the
question is not of the imbecillitie of the man, but of the good-
nes and aduantage of the weapon being vsed in his kinde,
and

and according to skill: But for these accidents before spoken of, if any of them happen, the fault is not to be imputed to the weapon, but to the souldier that hath committed some negligence. Confesse now a truth, & say that the musket & caluer are of greater force & service in the field or elsewhere, then any other shot that hath bin hitherto knownen, if the souldier that beareth them be expert, as he should be, and neglecteth no part of his dutie, and then I will answere you thus.

The very meane to bring a shot to perfection and experience, is practise, and then that man is much to blame, that (ignorantly and without knowledge) will seeke to dissuade that which both so greatly concerne his countries good, and would aduise vs to neglect a weapon of such excellencie accounted (& tried to be of) in all the partes of Christendome, that would so weaken vs, & aduantage any enemye & would assaile vs, as God defend that by any perswasion we should be induced to submit vnto, but rather with all carefulnes to inure them, knowing that the very perfection of those weapons, both especially consist in the practise of the bearer, and he which hath not celeritie and readines to vse them, is liker to endanger a friend, then hurt an enemye.

Pill And for this celeritie and readines the archer is especially to be preferred, that are alwaies ready to giue their bolies, and to shoot foure or fise arrowes, before your shot shall be able to discharge one bullet.

Skill This position is one of the greatest reasons that they haue in the behalfe of archers, & they will shote faster & oftener then shot can do, but this is euermoze aleaged by ignorant men, for although it be true that every archer ordinarily will shot faster then every shot can do hand to hand, yet for seruice to be perfozmed in the fiede, if there be 1000 shot, and 1000 archers, every captain of any sufficient experience, will so maintaine his skirmish, that he will still haue as many bullets flying, as the archers can shote arrowes, if they will shote to any purpose to annoy those that shal serue against them, & there is no such necessitie of hastie charging, as unskilfull men will imagine of, but that thotte

may take conuenient time, and the more they be in number the more may be their leisure. Now for their redines to giue those volies that is spoken of, I hope that, hauing their peeces charged, pzoined, their matches fired, and al things redy (as they are euermore accustomed, if there be such occasion, they can discharge with quicker expedition, then an archer can nocke his arrowes and draw it to his head.

Pill But the Archer that alwayes marcheth with his bow readie bent, may be thought likewise to be most readie for all manner of seruices, and for all manner of weathers, whether faire or soule: againe, the arrowes in their discent are most noysome and terrible to the enemy, lighting vpon their faces, their breasts, their bellies, their codpeeces, their thighes, their legges, and there is no place that is free from their danger, but that they gaule and spoyle both horse and man. Besides, flying together in the aire as thicke as haile, they do not onely terrifie their eies with the sight, but they do likewise amaze the verie eares and hearts of men, with the noyse and whistling they do make in the aire.

Skill Lord haue mercie vpon vs, what a fearefull description is this, and I will not denie (indeede) but that they may hit vs in the faces, in the breasts, and in the bellies, but for the codpeece, the tailers haue taken order they shall neuer hurt vs there any more, for they vie to make our hose now without codpeeces, and I perceiue it is done for a good intent and for the whistling that they do make in the aire, if that be a matter of such terrour, who would not be afraide to come amongst a flocke of Geese when they haue young golings, but he that hath bene in place where a volie of Bucket and Caluer shot, hath passed by him, and hath heard any thing of their whistling, will neuer after thinke that the fluzzing of an arrow, is so fearefull a matter.

But Captaine Pill to end this trisling, and to shewe you my opinion in a few words, the readiest way to find out the effects of these weapons, is first to consider of the place where they may be brought to serue, & time when they may do seruice, & what may be the effects in the execution of their seruice.

First

first for the place, archers, are not seruiceable at all, nei-
ther in trenches nor in any fortifications whatsoeuer, be-
cause they cannot in those places be brought to serue, but
they must make their bodies an open marke to the musket
and caluer, which are vsually placed in such sort, that a man
cannot put vp his head aboue the rampier, but with great
danger and peril. So that their place where they may serue,
is only in the plain & open field, where they must be guarded
with trench, hedge, ditch, or otherwise that horsemen may not
charge them, and yet there they cannot do their execution,
but they must stande in open view to the Musket and Cal-
uer, who taking the benefit of hedge, ditch, trees, bushes,
shrubbes, or other couerts which almost euery ground af-
fordeth them, or otherwise by the aduantage of farre shoo-
ting, will without any danger at all to themselves, easily dis-
place the other, and putte them from the ground: where the
Musket and Caluer hauing once taken place of aduantage,
will not be displaced neither with horse nor foot, but with
great hazard to those that shall assaile them.

For the time when these weapons may do their seruice,
first for the bow, it cannot be but within the distance of nine
or tenne score, for vntill that time the archer is not able to
shoot home, for although there be many that in their gaming
bowes and their arrowes, fitted to their length, and neatly
feathered, will shoot sixteen or eighteen score, yet when
they shall be brought to their linerie bowes, which are ra-
ther made to endure weather, then for far shooting, their ar-
rowes likewise big timbered, their fethers ruffled, where-
by they will gather winde, and ordinarily made of such
length, that very few will draw them to the heads by two
thre inches, these things considered, if tenne amongst a
hundred do shoot aboue tenne score, all the rest will shoot
short of nine. What aduantage then hath the Musketeeres,
that may take their times to beate upon troupes either of
horsemen, or footemen, thirtie score off, but within 24 with
great force and furie. Here is now a special matter to be no-
ted, the arrow comming in the aire in the descent, when it

should indanger, hath not above thre or foure pards at the furthest to flie, but it fa leth to the ground, where contrarywise the shot discharged fro the Musket, euen from the place of the first delinerie, runneth stil currant within the copasse of a mans height, and al the way in possibilitie to indanger, so that this may be concluded, neither can it be denied, as the arrow hath no possibilitie to indanger, in aboute one or two ranks, so the musket shotte hath as great likelihood to hurt, in more then two or thre and twentie.

Now touching the effects of these weapons for their execution, the greatest perfection of the bow, is to gall a horse or naked men that are vnarmed, & the arrow easily defended with matters of light cartage, as our barbarous Irishmen, that inuented targets made of small buckers, like basket liddes, which weighing not about two pound weight, would couer them from the toppe to the toe, and sometimes with their mantles hanging loose about their armes, which was the cause that our captains of that countrey, long sithence haue converted all their bows to calliuers, and from that time haue so continued.

The musket shot is of a greater effect, both against horse and man, and who is he that can carry such an armour as will holde them out? Of the further effects of these weapons I thinke I shall not neede to speake, but this may suffice to those that are not disposed to canill, and for those that are peruerse, I haue neither hope nor intention to alter or disswade the, & wil therfore make the moze sparing conclusion.

Pill Captaine Skill, you could neuer haue concluded in a better time, for we are come to a good towne, and I holde it best that we ride no furder to night. And for these matters thus discontented betwix vs, although you haue in a sort satisfied me, yet I haue something else to say which I will deferre till our next conuenience, but now I holde it best to take vp our lodgeing for this night.

Skill It is a very good motion, captaine Pill, and leade you the way to what Innie you are best acquainted at, and I will follow you.

FINIS.

